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T H E
H I S T O R Y
O F
N O R F O L K.

FREEBRIDGE Hundred and Half.

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 IN that grand national record made by the
 Conqueror, and called by him Doomsday
 Book, this hundred and half was wrote
 Frednebruge, or Fredebruge, and compre-
 hends what is now called Freebridge Lynn hundred,
 and Freebridge Marthland half hundred. It is sup-
 posed to have taken its name from the bridge cross
 the river Ouse at St. German's, which was at that
 time, according to Dugdale, but 12 perches, or 198
 feet over.

As frequent reference is made to Doomsday book
 in this History, it may not be improper to give a
 short description of it.

A

William

William the Conqueror, soon after his coronation at Westminster, December 26, 1066, ordered a general survey to be taken of all the lands in the kingdom; their extent in each hundred or district; their proprietors, tenures, and value; the quantity of meadow, pasture, wood, and arable land, which they contained; and, in some counties, the number of tenants, cottagers, and vassals of all denominations who lived upon them. He appointed commissioners for this purpose, who entered every particular in their register "by the verdict of juries;" and after a labor of many years, they brought him, in 1085, an exact account of all the landed property in the kingdom. This monument, called DOOMSDAY BOOK, the most valuable piece of antiquity possessed by any nation, is still preserved in the Exchequer.

William the Conqueror, with a few exceptions only, gave to his Norman followers all the lands and estates of the Saxons throughout the realm, and particularly in this county of Norfolk, thus disposed of the principal manors:

To Hugh de Abrancis	-	-	12 manors
Odo, bishop of Bayeux	-	-	22
Alan Rufus	-	-	81
Walter Giffard	-	-	28
Ralph Waker	-	-	9
William, earl of Warren			139 lordships
Cado de Rye	-	-	9 manors
William de Albin, pincerna			4 manors
Humphry de Bohun	-	-	1 manor
Ralph de Limefi	-	-	1 manor
Peter de Valoines	-	-	20 lordships
Ralph de Baynard	-	-	44 manors
Ralph de Tony	-	-	19 lordships

William

William the Conqueror gave the lordship of Brooke, in the hundred of Loddon, to the abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, when he first supplicated that saint's favor and protection, falling prostrate before him, and placing a small knife, wrapped up, on the altar, in the presence of many of his chief nobility.

Odo, bishop of Bayeux, in Normandy, and earl of Kent, had a grant of this hundred, as also of Smithdon, of his half-brother, the Conqueror, in 1066; but it was afterwards taken from him, and given to William de Albini, the king's butler, whose heirs male enjoyed it till the year 1242, when the lord Tatehale, in right of his wife, Mabel, eldest daughter of Hugh de Albini, the last earl of Suffex and Arundel, held it by service, of being in like manner king's butler.

By marriage it came to sir Osbert de Caily, and from his heirs to sir Roger Clinton, in whose family it remained till the 16th of March, 1465, when Robert Clifton, esq. of Denver in Clackclose hundred, let it by deed to Thomas Playters, esq.

Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, conveyed it to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in the reign of Henry VIII. on whose death it was granted to lady Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of that libidinous monarch, from whom she was divorced July 10, 1540.

It was held in the crown in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and Richard Hovell, esq. had a grant of it, with the courts, leets, fines, rents, &c. from James I. June 15, 1612.

The hundred court was anciently held at Flitcham-burgh, then called Flieceham-burgh, at which place there is a remarkable hill or tumulus, surrounded

4 HUNDRED AND HALF

with a ditch in the form of a square, where it is said, the business of this hundred-court was done.

The custom of holding courts on a hill, under a tree, or in a booth erected pro tempore, seems to have been first established by the Saxons in England, and from them continued down to the last century. Justices in Eyre (*justiciarie itinerantes*, or *errantes*) were instituted, according to Camden, in the reign of Henry II. whose business it was to decide such causes as were too high for the county courts, for which purpose they were sent by commission into the different counties. Justices of the forest sat to determine offences committed in the king's forest, and their court was called "The justice seat of the forest."

The hundred-court was afterwards held under an oak tree at Gaywood near Lynn, and till about the year 1710, was also held at a tree called Fitton-oak, in the manor of Fitton and parish of Wiggenhall St. German's, Thomas Howard, eighth duke of Norfolk, being then lord.

Freebridge hundred and half is situated at the western extremity of the county of Norfolk; is bounded by Lynn channel and the wash on the north-west, by part of Lincolnshire and Cambridge on the west, by the hundreds of Clackclose and South Greenhoe on the south, has Launditch and Gallow hundreds on the east, and Smithdon on the north. The extent from Massingham on the east to Wilbech river on the west, may be about 22 miles; and the breadth, from Pentney-abbey to Darlington, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The whole of this hundred and half constitutes the deanery of Lynn; is in the archdeaconry and diocese

diocese of Norwich, excepting Emneth, which belongs to the bishoprick of Ely, and contains 49 parishes.

The number of freeholders in the hundred and half of Freebridge, that polled at the great contested election at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between sir Armine Wodehouse, bart. of Kimberley, and Thomas de Grey, esq. of Merton, and sir Edward Astley, bart. of Melton-Constable, and Wenman Coke, esq. of Holkham, were as follows:

FREEBRIDGE LYNN.

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Anmer - - -	4	4	0	0
Ashwick - - -	1	1	0	0
Bilney, West - -	1	1	0	0
Castle-Acre - -	2	3	8	11
Castle-Rising - -	3	3	0	0
Congham - - -	2	2	1	1
Darlingham - - -	2	3	4	1
Flitcham - - -	0	0	2	2
Gayton - - -	2	3	4	5
Gaywood - - -	0	0	3	3
Grimston - - -	7	9	8	6
Harpley - - -	4	4	0	0
Hillington - - -	3	3	1	1
Leziate - - -	1	1	0	0
Lynn-Regis - - -	69	76	151	141
Maffingham, Gr. & Little	4	3	2	1
Middleton - - -	1	1	2	2
Newton, West - -	1	1	1	1
Pentney - - -	2	2	2	2
Roydon - - -	0	0	2	2
Runcton, North - -	3	3	3	3
Sandringham - - -	1	2	0	1
Setchy - - -	0	1	1	2

Walton,

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	W.	G.	A.	C.
Walton, East	0	1	2	1
West-Acre	2	2	1	1
Winch, East and West	1	2	3	4
Wooton, North & South	3	3	1	1
	119	134	202	192

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND.

Clenchwarton	0	0	5	5
Emneth	15	16	3	2
Illington	0	0	5	5
Lynn, West	0	0	3	3
Terrington, St. Clément and St. John	4	3	15	16
Tilney All Saints and St. Lawrence	0	1	9	8
Walpole St. Andrew and St. Peter	9	9	3	3
Walfoken	5	5	2	2
Walton, West	4	4	0	0
Wiggenhall St. German, St. Mary, & St. Mary Magdalen	3	3	10	10
	40	41	55	54
Total hundred and half	159	175	257	246

Seats, and noted Houses, in FREEBRIDGE Hundred
and Half.

Anmer, James Coldham, esq.

Belmount. fir James Johnstone, bart.

Bilney lodge, Francis Dalton, esq.

Emneth, or Hackbech hall, fir Henry Peyton, bart.

Emneth

Emmeth, Flewer Oxborough, esq.
 Hillington hall, fir Martin Browne Folkes, bart.
 Hillington, Mr. John Rose.
 Islington, Thomas Dixon, esq.
 Pentney, ——— Lloyd, esq.
 Runcion, North, Robert Cony, esq.
 Sandringham, Mrs. Henley.
 St. German's, Rev. John Towers Allen.
 Walpole, Robert Cony, esq.
 Walpole, James Townsend, esq. alderman of London.
 Walpole East-Drove, Mr. Wright, of London.
 Ditto West-Drove, Mr. Falconar.
 West-Acre, Richard Hamond, esq.

To describe the situation and natural history of this, by much the largest district in the county, with that perspicuity which is necessary in a work of this kind, we will confine our observations separately to Freebridge Lynn hundred, and Freebridge Marsh-land half hundred.

Freebridge Lynn, or Freebridge with Lynn, is a tract of country, the features of which are variously marked with many gentle rising eminences, a proportionate share of champaign and fertile lands, and a less valuable part of heath and warren grounds. For a more particular estimation of the soil, culture, and price of labor in this part of the county, we refer our readers to the quotation from Mr. Arthur Young's "Farmers Tour," given in pages 103, 104, &c. of Smithdon hundred

Besides the Ouse, there are several rivulets of less note, which "trickle down the cheeks of this rustic vale," and influx themselves with the sea at or near Lynn. A small brook rises, and passes into the Lynn channel in Darlington parish: By Flitcham, Hillington, Castle-Rising, and Babingly, a considerable

able stream runs into the same channel near Wolferton. This river is said to have been navigable for large vessels up to Castle-Rising, and sir H. Spelman calls it "a famous port." Another rivulet rises in the village of Grimstone, and meandering by Leziate, Bawsey, South Wooton, and Gaywood, passes into the Ouse river close to the town of Lynn. The river Nar, by some called the Setch, Sandringham, and Lynn flu, springs out of the bowels of Launditch hundred, and running by Castle-Acre, Pentney, Setch, &c. throws its contents into the Ouse at Lynn;* as does also a tributary stream, which flows from the parish of Gaythorpe, winding its course through Middleton, Mintlyn, &c.

This hundred, as well as Smithdon, is delightfully situated on the verge of the Lynn channel, forming, with the coast of Lincolnshire, the appearance of an amphitheatre round the wash, or bay, called METARIS ÆSTUARIUM. The country from the shore rises gradually to the confines of the hundred, and the prospect each way is very extensive, and beautifully diversified: churches, seats, woods, hills, and other pleasing objects, succeed each other in the ratio of landscape; and when contrasted with the shipping passing, in opposite courses, and at various distances from the eye, must impress the beholder with an exalted idea of the divine wisdom in the formation of nature, and of the instruction and power given us to improve.

"Go, wond'rous creature! mount where science
"guides,

"Go, measure earth, weigh air, and state the
"tides." Pope's Essay on Man.

The

* The course of the Nar, as well as of most other rivers in the county, are erroneously laid down in Corbridge's large map, of which, his leading this river into the Ouse above St. German's bridge is an instance.

The navigation of Lynn channel is rendered extremely difficult and perilous, on account of the continual shifting of the sands in the mouth of the harbour, which has proved fatal to many vessels and mariners †. This evil, it is affirmed, has been occasioned by the erection of Denver sluice in 1651, on the river, 17 miles above Lynn, above which sluice the tide formerly flowed about 20 miles: thus the flood-tide being checked in its lunar course, and the ebb-tide opposed by the remaining flow, without the assistance of the fresh waters in their natural course, the force of the tides are languid, and, of consequence, the channel not being scoured by the regular influx and reflux of the sea, the sands become less durable, and the navigation less certain. The best charts and maritime surveys that have been made, are totally useless at present; the eastern channel, now choaked up, was formerly a safe and well-known passage, but at present vessels are navigated through the western. Notwithstanding the difficulty and danger of this navigation, the imports to Lynn are immense; from which port, and the river Ouse, the inland communication with the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford and Northampton, conveys salt, coal, wine, fish, timber,

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stone,

† Great numbers of ships have been lost in attempting to run into Lynn or Boston; particularly in the year 1696, when near two hundred sail of colliers and coasters, being too far embayed to weather Winterton-nefs, stood away for Lynn Deep; but, missing their way in the night, they were all driven on shore, dashed to pieces, and near a thousand persons perished.

At Two o'clock on Sunday morning, August 31, 1777, the brig, *George and Mary*, Andrews, with coals, from Newcastle to Lynn, and lying at anchor in the channel, was drove on the sand called Pinque-way. On a signal from the ship in the forenoon, the master and two men, who had been on shore all night, in attempting to return to the relief of those on board, in crossing the sands on foot, were surrounded by the tide, and all three unhappily perished. The crew saved themselves in the boat, but the vessel went to pieces.

stone, and other necessaries; and the exports from Lynn are chiefly of such commodities as are brought down from those counties by water. Its foreign trade is very considerable, especially with Holland, Norway, the Baltic, Spain, and Portugal, and is thought to import more wine than any other town in England, London excepted.

This hundred abounds with the same variety of soil and natural productions, for which the county, in toto, is so eminently noted: corn, cattle, wool, and rabbits, are the staple. The higher grounds, with some few exceptions, are of a light sand or gravel; the lower grounds and lands near the villages, fertile and well inclosed, and those which are under the necessity of drainage, are of a flat silty rich pasture, extremely well adapted for fattening neat cattle and sheep.

The air is healthy and pleasant towards the inland parts, though frequently piercing; but the autumnal fogs, or damps, which evaporate from the fen-lands near the sea-coast, are aguish, and otherwise unsalutary.

MARSH-LAND is so termed, in allusion to its original and present state. Whether Marshland, and the fen-lands in Holland and the Isle of Ely, were originally a part of the ocean, which the waters providentially left, or that this extensive plain was at some time swallowed up by an inundation from the sea, and afterwards drained, or otherwise cleared, admits of a doubt; more especially as the most learned writers on the subject have differed in opinion. Sir William Dugdale, in his History of Embanking, is of opinion, "that the Romans were the persons who originally gained from the sea this part of Norfolk, called Marshland, where the Saxons were also invited

to settle, from the extraordinary fertility of the soil; and that they did so, is evident from the authentic survey taken by the Norman conqueror, which sheweth that the towns now in being there, were also extant in the days of king Edward the Confessor."

From the same venerable author, and others, we make the following extracts:

"This vast level was originally a firm dry land, not overflowed by the sea, or any stagnating fresh waters, which is plain from the great number of timber-trees that have been found in several parts of it. Now it is certain, that such will not grow in watery moorish places; besides, it is observable, that where they have been found, as in digging of channels and drains, their roots have been always observed to stand in the firm earth below the moor. Dugdale says, he himself saw great numbers of oak and fir-trees taken up in the fens near Thorney. Great numbers were also dug up at the cutting of that large channel called Downham Eau. In Marshland likewise, about a mile westward from Magdalen bridge, at the setting down of a sluice there were found, 17 feet deep, several furze-bushes, as also nut-trees pressed flat down, with nuts found and firm lying by them, the bushes and trees standing in solid earth below the silt, which the sea had brought up, and in time raised to that thickness. Great numbers of oak and fir-trees were found likewise at the making of the ditches and sewers for draining the Isle of Axholme, in Lincolnshire.

"It is highly probable, that some great earthquake was the occasion of the sea's breaking in and overflowing this country with such violence, as to tear up the woods by the roots; which inundation of the sea brought in such a prodigious quantity of

filt, as not only, for several miles towards the sea, to cover the ground to an extraordinary depth, but even to the remotest parts near the high lands; as is evident from sir Robert Cotton's finding, upon making a pool near Conington in Cambridgeshire, the skeleton of a large sea-fish, near 20 feet long, lying above six feet deep in filt. At what time this happened we cannot say." That there have been such like changes we have undoubted testimony.

"In the time of the consullship of Valentinian and Valens, there was an earthquake, which not only overthrew divers cities, but altered the very bounds of the sea; which so flowed in some parts, that men might sail in those places where before they did walk; and forsook others, that they became dry land."

Ghent in Flanders, 900 years ago, was a haven-town; St. Omer's a sea-port; as was also Romney, Limne, and Richborough in Kent; Eye in Suffolk; Shegness in Lincolnshire, and Castle-Rising in Norfolk.

"At the digging of a foundation for the Saffe at Salter's-lode, there were found first 10 feet depth of filt, then three feet of firm moor, then blue gault, then three feet of moor, and at last whitish clay.

"At the setting down a fluice a little below Magdalen fall, a stone eight feet long, and a cart-wheel 16 feet in the earth, were taken up by the workmen of Mr. Emerson.

"At the setting down of Skirbeck fluice near Boston, there was found at 16 feet depth, covered with filt, a smith's forge, with all the tools thereto belonging,

longing, with horse-shoes and other things made of iron."

To these observations of Dugdale we may add, "that near the river Welland, which runs through Spalding in Lincolnshire, anno 1696, at the depth of about ten feet there were found jetties (as they are called) to keep up the old river's bank, and the head of a tunnel, that emptied the land-water into the old river; and at between 20 and 30 yards distance from the present river, there were dug up (about the like depth) several old boats; which things shew, that anciently the river was either much wider than it now is, or ran in another place, or both. On the other, viz. the north-west side of the river, and more upwards in the town, were dug up (at about the forementioned depth) the remains of old tan-vats or pits, a great quantity of ox-horns, and shoe-soles of a very strange unusual form, with sharp-pointed toes turning up. Which things shew, that the surface of the country lay anciently much lower than now it does, and has been raised up by the sea's throwing in its sand in the maritime parts (now most inhabited) and by the moor or routed sedge in the fenny parts next the high country.

"At the laying of the present new sluice or gote (as they call it) at the end of Hamond beck, at its fall into Boston haven, taking up the foundation of the old gote, they met with the roots of trees, many of them issuing from their several boles or trunks spread in the ground, which when they had taken up (the roots and the earth they grew in) they met with a solid, gravelly and stony soil, of the high-country kind, (but black and discoloured by the change that had befallen it) upon which hard earth they laid the foundation of this new gote, where
these

these roots were dug up, which was certainly the surface of the old country."

We have been informed, that William Greaves, esq. of Beaupre hall in Outwell, is in possession of an ancient document, wherein mention is made of wood growing at a place called Hedgehirne wood in that parish, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, which place is now a deep fen.

All these forementioned instances clearly prove, "that (to make use of Dugdale's words) some great land-flood, many ages since, meeting with an obstruction at the natural outfall to sea, by reason of much silt, which after a long drought had choaked them up, did then spread itself over the face of the whole level; and that the waters till this general draining, ever since covering the same, have produced a moor now grown to so great a thickness."

The following translation, by Dryden, of Ovid's description of the changes in the terrestrial system is finely imagined, and à-propos to the present purpose,

The face of places and their forms decay;
And that is solid earth, that once was sea:
Seas in their turn, retreating from the shore,
Make solid land, what ocean was before;
And far from strands are shells of fishes found,
And rusty anchors fix'd on mountain-ground:
And what were fields before, now wash'd and worn
By falling floods from high, to valleys turn,
As crumbling still descend to level lands;
And lakes and trembling bogs are barren sands.

Freebridge Marshland half hundred is bounded by the sea on the north; by Cross-keys Wash and Wisbech river, which divides Norfolk from Lincolnshire
and

and the Isle of Ely in Cambridgeshire, on the west; by the old Podike, dividing this with Clackclose hundred, on the south; and by the river Ouse, on the east, which is the boundary, (Wiggenhall St. German's and St. Peter excepted) with part of Clackclose and Freebridge Lynn hundreds. The country has a gentle and almost imperceptible ascent from its limits, as above described, to its centre; and many of its lofty churches command extensive prospects into Norfolk, Lincoln and Cambridge shires.

Marshland comprehends what is properly called "the seven towns of Marshland," viz. Emneth, Terrington, Tilney, Walpole, Walsoken, Walton, and Wiggenhall. These townships enjoy a mutual right of inter-common on the Smeth and its appurtenances, which are said to contain about 3000 acres of summer pasture: a piece of land so fruitful (as was reported by a courtier to James I. at his first coming to the crown of England) "that if over night a wand or rod was laid on the ground, by the morning it would be covered with grass of that night's growth, so as not to be discerned." To which that king is said, in a jocular manner, to reply, "that he knew some grounds in Scotland, where if an horse was put in over night, they could not see him, or discern him in the morning." Of this plain, or smeth, there is a tradition, which the common people retain, that in old time the inhabitants of these towns had a contest with the lords of the manors, about the bounds and limits of it; when one Hickifric, a person of great stature and courage, assisting the said inhabitants in their rights of common, took an axel-tree from a cart wheel, instead of a sword, and the wheel for a shield, or buckler, and thus armed, soon repelled the invaders; and for proof of this notable exploit, they to this day shew (says sir William Dugdale) a large grave-stone, near the east end of the chancel,
in

in Tilney church-yard, whereon the form of a cross is so cut or carved, as that the upper part thereof (wherewith the carver hath adorned it) being circular, they will therefore needs have it to be the grave-stone of Hickifric, and to be as a memorial of his gallantry.* But this story, like that of "Sir Thomas Erpingham and the Monk," in Mr. Blomefield's Essay, is better calculated for the reader of a "Penny History" than for the perusal of a less credulous or superstitious mind.

The parishes of Clenchwarton, West and North Lynn, though lying in Marshland, are excluded from any use of pasturage, &c. on the Smeth common.

Camden says, "Marshland is, as it were, cut to pieces, and it is imagined there are an hundred bridges over the dikes which drain the lands." The roads, which are numerous, are very irregular and disagreeable to travel on. The crops are generally very good, and well got in; and the price of labor in harvest-time is from 2s. 6d. to 5s. a day, or 7s. 6d. per acre reaping.

The contaminated air here is not so prejudicial to the constitution of asthmatic people as it is in the lower fens, but the ague prevails at every period of life.

Vast improvements have been made towards the sea-coast of Marshland, by embanking, especially in the parishes of Terrington and Clenchwarton, where the late captain Bentinck, at a considerable expence, took in 900 acres of salt-marsh; now rendered arable by the perseverance and public spirit of that worthy gentleman. A like enclosure is going to be made

* Parkin,

made in Walpole, by alderman Townsend, of London, and others concerned.

The old sea-bank (in many places called Roman) is yet entire, and the towns of Walpole, Walton and Walsoken, situated on it, take their names from this barrier. Each town in Marshland were mutually obliged to support a proportion of the great banks raised to defend their own property, and not (as is the case in the Bedford Level) vested in the power of a body corporate, who may be ignorant of the value and means of that support. Commissioners have been appointed in different reigns, "to see that the banks in Marshland were in repair," but the interest of each landholder being to preserve his property from the inundations of the tide, effected more than even a royal mandate. In 1277, we find each town in Marshland maintained about six furlongs of the Podike.

The principal out-fall of the several cuts which drain the fen-lands of the great Bedford Level being at Lynn, through the present channel of the river Ouse, which empties itself into the bay called METARIS ÆSTUARIUM, the preservation of this out-fall and navigation has been the primary object of the commissioners of the "Corporation of the Bedford Level."

To trace minutely the origin and progress of the many improvements which have been made or attempted, and the success or failure of each effort towards so desirable a purpose, would lead us into a labyrinth of opinions, in which men of superior judgment and experience have lost themselves: We will, therefore, rest our information on the shoulders of others, and give, in as brief and explicit a manner as we are able, a general series of occurrences, collected

from the various reports, schemes, surveys, &c. that have been published, without intruding a single hint, or suggestion of our own; well knowing, that those opinions (which are as various as the reports, &c.) have contributed in some degree to disturb the counsels, and impede the operation of every measure proposed or adapted by the Hon. Board of the Corporation of the adventurers of Bedford Level.

The river Ouse, formerly called Ufa, or Ifa, springs from a gentle rising ground near Brackley, 13 miles above Northampton, in the same county, and passing by Buckingham, Stony-Stratford, Newport-Pagnel, Bedford, St. Neot's, Huntingdon, St. Ives, Erith, Ely, Littleport, Downham, and St. German's, discharges itself (after a course, according to Badelade, of 160 miles) into the sea below Lynn-Regis. Besides a number of brooks and smaller rivers upwards, it receives the Grant, or Cam, above Ely; Mildenhall river a little below Littleport; the Little Ouse, or Brandon river, above Southery; the Wisley, or Stoke river, at Denver sluice; the Nene at Salter's Lode, and the Nar at Lynn, where the Great Ouse is about 300 yards wide.

"The rivers Ouse, Grant and Mildenhall, in ancient times had their united course by Littleport, Wellney and Well, through Wisbech outfall to sea; and then the waters of Brand and Stoke rivers only ran together by Salter's Lode, Magdalen and German's, through Lynn haven to sea.

"When Wisbech outfall decayed, (destroyed) faith Mr. Richard Atkins, chiefly by incroachments upon the river, and buildings on its banks, which made it too narrow to vent the high country waters, and the fens in consequence thereof became hurtfully surrounded, the commissioners of sewers cut a canal from
from

from Littleport to Brand river, to give the waters of Ouse, Grant and Mildenhall rivers, the same course with Brand and Stoke, through Lynn outfall to sea; the descent of all the fens being that way.

“This abundance of fresh waters having now this course, and this only, gave the sea a more spacious inlet; the one as it were preparing the way, and the other maintaining it with great increase, saith Mr. Atkins; and sir Clement Edmonds saith, “the fresh waters, with the assistance of the tides from sea, wore the river wider and deeper.”

“But it was not possible for the tides and freshes in their operations, to wear and grind in a few ages this river and outfall deep and wide enough to receive and convey through it to sea, the waters of so many rivers that had their course given this way, in default of their former outfall; therefore those waters, for want of a sufficient vent, constantly overflowed the fens in winter time, and kept them drowned most part of the summer, notwithstanding the many works made within the bounds of the fens towards draining, before the undertaking for a general draining commenced.

“And as the river Ouse, from the bounds of the fens to seaward, has been hindered from growing deeper by sluices, and from growing wider by bridges, the fens still continue hurtfully surrounded; and must continue so, until the river be enlarged.

“The rivers Grant, Brand, Mildenhall, Stoke, New Bedford, and Well-Creek, all their widths added together, is near 300 feet. The river Ouse below Salter's Lode, which should be a receptacle for the waters of all these rivers, and should convey them thro' its banks to sea, is but 120 feet wide, (but 105 at

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the bridges) therefore cannot vent above one-third of the high country waters that descend these rivers, exclusive of the downfall waters of the great level of the fens. This truth is confirmed by woeful experience; else, why when the river Ouse was so deep that low water mark was 10 feet under soil of the fens from Salter's Lode to seaward, (as it was before Denver sluices were built) and after works had been made by the lord Popham, &c. to lead the fen waters into the Ouse at Salter's Lode; why, I ask, if the Ouse had been wide enough to convey those waters to sea, was the fens then so hurtfully surrounded as to occasion the general undertaking to drain them?—Why after the New Bedford river was made, and Denver sluices built, did the floods that descended that new river, rise high against the sluice doors, and keep them shut weeks together, and also rise high between the New Bedford banks, sometimes breaking them and overflowing the fens; but that the Ouse was not wide enough to receive and convey the floods to sea that came down the New Bedford river only, exclusive of the waters of the rivers Grant, Mildenhall, Brand and Stoke, which were all pent into the south level by Denver sluices, until the New Bedford floods were run off to sea, or had broke their banks, and dilated themselves over the face of the fens?—Why was St. John's Eau and Tong's Drain of little or no use to draining, but because the river Ouse, below the mouths of those drains, could convey no more water to sea than it could before those drains were made?—And why doth the floods of the New Bedford river revert into the south level (now Denver sluices are destroyed and away) to the total drowning of that country, but that the river Ouse (though the natural bottom is 14 feet deep below the soil of the south level) is not wide enough to convey to sea the Bedford river floods only?

And

“ And that it is impossible for the fens to be drained through so narrow a river as is the Ouse, (even tho’ by natural means, or artificial scours, its ancient depth be regained) will farther appear, if we compare the Ouse with our other great rivers that have their outfall into as great seas.

“ And as the river Ouse is inferior to no one river in the extent of its inland navigation, it is superior to any one in respect of draining; it being the sewer and outfall of the great level of the fens, called Bedford Level, of near 400,000 acres; of the province of Marshland, of 40,000 acres; of the hundred of Clackclose, and parts adjacent, of 10,000 acres of land.

“ I should have said the river Ouse was thus famous for navigation and draining: indeed it is far, very far from being so now, having for several years last past gradually decayed, insomuch that it is rendered incapable of draining any of the aforesaid lands, and will be lost to navigation in a very short time.*

When the Little Ouse, or Brandon river, Stoke and the Nar, were the only waters that had their influx with the sea at Lynn, the channel of that haven was not above six poles broad, and the river from Denver downwards, then called Wiggshall Eau, proportionately narrow. Formerly the Great Ouse, Grant and Mildenhall rivers, meeting at Littleport, had their course by Welney to Upwell, where they were joined by the Nene; and running by Outwell, Emneth, and Elme, to Wisbech, had their outfall into the wash between Walpole and Sutton: but the outfall by Wisbech being decayed, or destroyed, as

Badeflade

* Badeflade.

Badeflade will have it, the Ouse and Nene changed their course at Outwell, and running by Mullicourt and Nordelf, through Well-creek, into Stoke and Brandon rivers at Salter's Lode, with them formed what is now called the Great Ouse, to Lynn.

On account of the great encrease of waters, and natural apprehensions of the people of Marshland for the country's safety, a cut of three miles and a half from the Great Ouse at Littleport to the Little Ouse near Littleport chain was made, by which the course of the Grant and Ouse was turned into the Nene at Salter's Lode. The ancient state of the rivers is confirmed by various authorities. The outfall by Wisbech, or Ousbeach, was sometimes called the Well river, as appears by a register at Peterborough; Wisbech castle founded super flumen illud famosum, quod Well-streame appellatur, &c. And some writers say that king John, in passing the waters of Well, 1216, lost most of his baggage and treasure.

In 1292, a commission from the king, bearing date June 19, was procured for making a proper enquiry into the waters of Well, when it was ordained by the consent of the country, that three dams should be made in Upwell and Outwell, to turn the Nene into its ancient and due course, to its outfall below Wisbech. The inhabitants of Marshland made a stop of the said waters at Little Lode in Upwell.

The bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, treasurer to Edward I, caused a dam to be made at Outwell; but a presentment being exhibited to the justices itinerant, then sitting at Northampton, the 5th of Edward III. May 12, 1332, setting forth how prejudicial this stop to the navigation between Peterborough and

and Lynn was to trade, &c. and that by this hindrance great part of the low lands of the middle level would be drowned, the high sheriff of Norfolk, and others concerned, were empowered to pull the said dam down.

Thus the weight and rapid force of the waters did wear and grind the river Ouse and Lynn haven to such a width, that the parishes of Clenchwarton, Tilney, Iffington, and Wiggenhall in Marshland, Holm, Watlington, and South Runcton in Clackclose, Setchy and West Winch in Freebridge Lynn, preferred a petition to the king, shewing, "That whereas the river going to Lynn used to run between banks distant 12 perches asunder, but was now a full mile in breadth, whereby a great part of those parishes were overflowed, they humbly pray that the said river might be confined to its ancient width." But the inhabitants of Lynn, and a part of Marshland, promoted a bill in the parliament of 1342, in opposition to the abovementioned petition, which they carried.

In 1378, the aforesaid parishes presented a petition to Richard II. imploring the same, in effect, as the former to his predecessor; whereupon a commission of view was granted, who reported, that the river at South Lynn, then 40 perches, or 640 feet, ought to be reduced to its original width, six perches; and the Setch or Nar, from five perches to one: but it does not appear that any advantage was taken of this report; for petitions of the same request were presented to Elizabeth in 1596, and to James I. 1618, in the latter of which the inhabitants of Marshland are said to have suffered a loss of 30,000*l.* by an inundation of the sea in 1613. This prayer was also referred to a commission of view, and in like manner

ner neglected, although sir Clement Edmonds certified to the board of commissioners, August 12, 1618, "that the haven of Lynn was, through the violence of the tides, and great fall of freshes, grown much wider than it had been, to the endangering of Marshland." Mr. Richard Atkins, of Outwell, who was an eminent commissioner of sewers, and flourished the beginning of James I. gave his opinion to the same effect.

About this time some improvements were made in carrying off the waters from Outwell through Rightforth Lode into the Ouse at Stowe bridge, and from Elme, cross Marshland, into the same river at Knight's Gool, an. 1640. Sir William Dugdale saith, "that the Smeth common, which used to feed 30,000 sheep, now lies under water, on account of the outfall at Knight's Gool being filted up with sand lodged against the sluice doors.

Dugdale observes likewise, "that anno 1662, at Wiggenhall St. Mary's, at a place called Wathden, there were then to be seen some remains of a church, as also bones that appeared at a low ebb upon the river side, about eight feet below the present surface of the earth. The like also was observable at Wiggenhall St. German's, the floor of the church there being at least seven feet lower than the high water mark of the river Ouse." He observes, "that the rising of the tides to so great a height was what occasioned the channel of Lynn to widen so much, that the inhabitants were forced to remove one of their churches to a further distance from it, as is yet to be seen in that part of it now called Old Lynn, where the bones of the dead, which were buried in St. Edmund's church-yard, are now (or however were but very lately) daily washed at every tide, by reason that part of the same church-yard is consumed away with the violence of that current."

Upon

Upon a view, the haven at Lynn was thought the most eligible outfall for the Nene, Grant, &c. and, were it not for winter waters, would utterly decay. And Mr. Goddard, who was recorder of Lynn, saith, "That though the channel to seaward below the haven was near half a mile wide at low water, yet it was of a depth sufficient for a ship of twelve feet water to be brought up in any one tide without any wind."

The same gentleman observes, "that the tides flowed up into the Ouse about — 48 miles.

Into the Grant	5	} which is from Lynn	48
Mildenhall	8		42
Brandon	10		36
Stoke	6		24
Nene	7		23

The tide putting up so far into all these rivers, and filling them twice in every twenty-four hours, they were not only competently supplied with water from sea in the driest seasons to serve for the inland navigation, which by means of so many branches is the most extensive in England; so that commerce and trade was constantly maintained up the river Nene to Well, March, and Peterborough, above fifty miles from Lynn, into Northampton, Rutland, Lincoln, Nottingham, and Leicestershire, with vessels of fifteen tons, which easily passed laden in the driest seasons.

And up the river Ouse they could sail with forty tons freight thirty-six miles at least from Lynn at ordinary neip tides; and great and constant commerce was held to Cambridge, Bedford, &c. and between Cambridge and St. Ives, Huntingdon, St. Neot's,

Bedford, and places adjacent, with a burden of fifteen ton, which is ninety miles from Lynn by water*.

Sir Cornelius Vermuyden observes, that "the outfall of Lynn hath sufficient water to keep open his channel, and although in summer the sands in Lynn haven overcome the ebbs somewhat, yet they do not lie long, but the first land-waters, or next spring tides, carry them away again."

How far the imbanking of salt marshes may affect a navigation, Mr. Badeflade makes the following remarks. "Since a considerable number of acres of salt-marsh have been imbanked and taken in, adjoining to the port of Wells, and several creeks have had banks run cross them, which hinders the neap-tide from putting up into those creeks, as they were wont to do, and also the spring-tides from overflowing the quantity of marsh they used before to cover, the said harbour of Wells, its channel and pool, have very sensibly decayed, as have done all channels that have been any ways deprived of their ancient stock of back-waters. Thus Mr. Atkins writes, "Spalding of old time was best of three outfalls, "now the worst; lost by winning certain several "marshes to the seaward."

"Thus the honourable Corporation of Adventurers set forth to the parliament in their reasons, why Sutton Marsh below Wisbech should not be inned, A. D. 1719. "That it is found by experience, that "the imbanking the salt-marshes, or gaining land "from the sea, has been the principal cause of the "channel's being choaked up, and have just reason "to be apprehensive, that the imbanking any more
" will

* Badeflade.

“ will entirely destroy that outfall to sea, &c.”— Thus also the petition of Rye in Suffex to the parliament, 1701, sets forth, “ That of late years several persons have inned several acres of land which belong to the said harbour, and have built flood-gates to stop the flow and reflow of the tide up the river Rother, and thereby the said harbour grows worse every year.”

Of this opinion is sir Cornelius Vermuyden; he saith, “ The Ouse, from Littleport to Lynn, keeps his depth by reason of the back-waters.”

That Marshland, and the great level of the fens were originally good lands, we have already given some proofs, and shall only add a few other authorities before we proceed on the business of the Adventurers.

“ The fens that are now, were sometimes of the nature of land meadows, (says Mr. Atkins) fruitful, healthful, and very gainful to the inhabitants, and yielded much relief to the high countries in time of great drought. The truth of this is disputed by some people, but they seem plainly to have been so; for Peterborough of old was called Medehamsted of the meadows there, and not Fenhamsted of the fens that now are; and yet unto it did most of the fens belong. And Ely fen, or Peterborough great fen was forest, whose keeper had in it, in the new marshes, now called Marsh Fen, an inclosure for keeping of sheep, and for mowing of hay; and in Wryde Croft, a mansion-house and a large dairy-house.”

Leland and other ancient writers are lavish in the praise of this once fruitful country.

In a law of sewers made the 29th of September, 1596, called Neatmoor Law, the commissioners, after enumerating the causes why “these fenny grounds” did lie long surrounded, and so became unprofitable, which in former time have been dry and profitable, it is said—And so they may be hereafter, if due provision be made.”

And sir Henry Hobart, attorney-general to king James I. says, “That the grounds now sought to be drained, are such as naturally and anciently were dry grounds.”

“How this country, says Mr. Badeflade, which though lying flat and low, (yet was not originally annoyed with any constant stop of the fresh waters, which might by overflowing and stagnation make it fenny) came to be surrounded in the manner it was before the general undertaking to drain it commenced, I shall here endeavour to manifest.

“It may look like a paradox to say that it was occasioned by imbanking: but certainly it was, and by the not putting the laws of sewers afterwards in execution; by neglect whereof the principal drains became useless to convey the downfall water into the rivers, and thereby the outfall of those rivers themselves were by degrees lost.

“The plainer to make this appear, I shall employ this section in tracing the state of the level from distant times e’er yet it was imbanked, to the time of the general undertaking for the draining thereof.

“I have proved that the greatest part of the level was anciently firm and dry ground; but as the course of the rivers shew that this vast plain has a
hanging

hanging level and gradual descent to the ocean, the spring-tides did overflow the lowest part of it, so as that it was in nature salt-marsh; till they were imbanked and defended from the sea by a colony of the Romans that had residence in these parts.

“ These colonies were so excellently disciplined, that for avoiding the mischief which idleness produceth, they were always exercised in some necessary employment, or public work.

“ These active and industrious Romans, who made use of all art and skill to the advancement of their profit, observing these salt-marshes to be very fertile, and to lie above the reach of the ordinary tides, bestowed the pains and cost (says Dugdale) to raise a strong bank of earth on that side the level towards the ocean, to defend it from the overflowing of the spring tides; by which means, the countries of Holland and Marshland were won and gained.”

“ Succeeding ages following the example of the Romans; more and more of this level hath been continually taken in and imbanked, and by those banks the high-country waters were kept from the sea, whither the very descent of the country would carry them, if these banks were not: which our good commissioners of sewers of old time foreseeing, did enjoin the makers of those banks to make, keep and maintain gooles or helps, both for the safety of their banks, and for the better conveyance of the waters.”

And the like effects these banks have wrought upon the fens now (meadows once): “ The banks to be made, may in time to come work upon the upland meadows (says Mr. Atkins). This experience

hath shewn, for before the Old Podike was made to send off the land waters (7th of Henry III. anno 1223) from Marshland, the lower part of that province was no better than marsh. For the banks that defended Marshland from the sea, hindered the downfall from getting to sea; so that the waters descending, the higher stagnated in the lower grounds for want of gooles and helps to pass it away to the outfall."

Sir William Dugdale saith, "By an ancient pleading it appeareth, that before the 27th of Henry I. (six hundred years ago) there was neither habitation nor ground that yielded profit within that part of Wiggshall, from Bustard's Dole unto the south side of the said town, except the monastery of Crabbhouse, with some lands belonging thereto, all being then waste, and in the nature of fen." And we find that when the old Podike was much torn and broken by the weight of the land waters on the south side against it, that great part of Marshland was overflowed by the fresh waters: and because the said Podike was judged by the commissioners of sewers, 1 Hen. VI. incapable of being mended, on account of the weakness of the ground whereon it stood: therefore A. D. 1422, the New Podike was ordained and decreed to be made; and accordingly it was made, and extended itself from Salter's Lode to Wellshoal.

Hereupon the land south of this new bank became overflowed: for we find, April 2, anno 1423, "That Thomas duke of Exeter, &c. (because several lands in Upwell and Outwell were furrounded, caused by the new Podike) gave leave to Henry Wells, archdeacon of Lincoln, and others, to convey the waters by tunnels under the said Podike through
Rightforth

Rightforth Lode into Wiggenhall Eau, which carries itself towards Bishop's Lynn."

'Tis certain that the river, by these encroachments, was made so narrow, that the land-floods when they came down in the winter season could not find passage to sea; so that for want of room to get away, they were enforced to overflow the level during that season; and in very wet years, continued to surround it all the summer, because all the sewers, drains, petty drains, &c. (saith Mr. Atkins) within the fens, were ruinous and utterly decayed, which were the principal conductors and guiders of the waters into the main streams; which have grown up for want of diking and scouring, and the waters have been obstructed by placing of wears, flamps, and divers such impediments, to the general hurt of the whole country, not only in these petty drains, but even in the very main streams themselves.*

And Atkins saith, speaking of Wisbech, "This pitiful outfall proceedeth of neglect, in not scouring and dyking the river, nor preserving and maintaining the petty sewers and drains which anciently fed the same, by enforcing the waters thereof, and keeping them in their proper course; whereby the sea finding but little resistance (nor strength of a following head of water to scour the channel continually) silted up the river and outfall; so that though of ancient times ships of great burden resorted to Wisbech, yet for these causes the outfall so silted up, that as long since as king John's time, above five hundred years ago, the channel was so shallow, that people could pass over at low water.

This outfall thus decayed, the waters of Great Ouse, which passed through the Isle of Ely in two branches, the first branch, called the West-water, from Erith by Chatteris to Benwick, where it met a part of Nene, descending under Horsey bridge, thro' the Meres, to Benwick aforesaid, and they concurred in one course to March bridge, and so to Upwell; where they met with the other branch of Ouse, which fell from Erith to Harrimere; and after receiving the river Grant, (from Cambridge) passed united to Ely, thence to Littleport-chair, and so by Wellney to Upwell aforesaid, and from thence both branches ran united to the north sea, by Wisbech, while that outfall was good and perfect. But that decaying, and Wisbech river being neither deep enough nor wide enough to receive and pass away these great bodies of water; the West-water, or first branch of Ouse, with Nene united, which fell down partly by March to Well, not finding passage thro' Well to Wisbech, did at Shrewsfness and Well most part thereof turn towards Littleport and Salter's-lode, overflowing in its way all the low grounds in the Isle of Ely."

Then saith Mr. Atkin, "As it seemeth there was not any river between Littleport-chair and Rebeck, but all the lodes, lakes and dykes, as St. Edmund's-lode, Gnat-lode, Dockey-lode, &c. took their naturall fall into a great mere near Well, called the Wyde; and from the Wyde, by divers tracts, as Webwinch-lake, Aldy-lode, Small-lode, Chetiselbeech, Waxbech-lode, &c. into the river at Upwell, and thence with the branch of Ouse from Littleport to the north sea by Wisbech."

This was the course of those waters while the outfall was good; but that decaying, and in consequence

quence thereof great part of the level being overflowed in times of floods, and kept for the most part furrounded; "Means were found, saith Mr. Atkins, to let Great Ouse fall from Littleport-chair to Rebeck, (by a lode, which at first seemed to be called Hemmings Eau) into Ouse Parva, which has its course to Salter's lode, and thence to the north sea by Lynn, whose haven and channel before that time was not above six poles wide." But after Wisbech outfall decayed, Lynn haven was worn wider by degrees, by the action of the tides, and force of the fresh waters descending that way; for besides the waters of Old Ouse having this new passage given them to sea, the river of Nene led its waters also this way, i. e. from Peterborough to Ramsey, thence to a decayed river in March, called Great Cross, thence to a decayed sewer called New Leame, thence to a certain place in Upwell, called Shrewsneft Point; and there the said river divided itself into two branches, whereof the one returned south-east, and was called the South Branch, unto a certain old decayed sewer in Welney hamlet, called Maid-lode, and from thence to another old decayed sewer between Welney and Littleport, called Newdike, and from thence into Ouse at Littleport-chair, after a circuit of fifty-four miles.

The north branch descended from the said place called Shrewsneft Point, unto a certain place in Outwell, called Outwell-shoal, and from thence southward unto a certain place called Nordelph, and from thence eastward unto Salter's lode, and there into the great river, and by that course to sea thro' Lynn haven.

Thus the waters of Nene were forced to take in a manner their full flow and whole course contrary
to

to their wonted avoidance, at Wisbech, by reason of the decay of the sewers, called the Great Cross, the New Leame, &c. The decay of which said several sewers, with the rivers, lodes and drains from them, extending unto the said town of Wisbech; and in consequence thereof, the decay of Wisbech outfall itself, was the cause of drowning and destroying the adjacent country: and thus the waters of Nene, in default of their proper outfall descending to sea by Lynn, Wisbech channel, and so low as the Cross-Keys, thereby utterly decayed.*

From the reign of Edward I. to James I. many inefficacious attempts were made to remove those prejudices the country laboured under, either on account of the imbankments towards sea, altering the natural course of rivers, or neglect of sewers, &c.

At this time, July 15, 1605, sir John Popham, lord chief justice of England to king James I. much affecting the good of this country, procured an act of parliament for making new drains, &c. which was intitled,

An Act for the Draining of certain Fens and low Grounds within the Isle of Ely, and Counties adjoining, subject to hurt by surrounding: and ran thus,

“Whereas it is affirmed by skilful and expert men, &c. that the fens and low grounds, lying and being within the isle of Ely, &c. may be drained, if sufficient authority be given: And whereas sir John Popham, and others, have undertaken to do their best endeavours, &c. Be it therefore enacted, &c. that the said sir John Popham, &c. shall have power, &c. to make works for that purpose, &c.

“And

* Badeflade.

“ And to cause to be made a sufficient conveyance for Ouse, either by enlarging the channel, or by imbanking in such places, or doing any thing else, by them thought needful, from Erith bridge to Salter's lode; so as they debar not the towns and commons of convenient passage and access to the river over the banks, in convenient places, for necessary occasions.

“ And to make two new rivers, to begin about Erith bridge, where six commissioners, whereof four inhabiting within the isle shall think fit, to fall into Ouse about Denver hithe; with *sufficient banks* and indikes, as well of old Ouse, as of the new rivers, to be laid so far off one from the other, as six commissioners, whereof four of the isle of Ely, &c. or of the counties of Cambridge or Norfolk respectively, where the work shall be done, shall think fit; with *sufficient sluices at the upper end of the new rivers and West-water, in such sort as the navigation in Old Ouse and Grant be not impaired.*

“ *And to imbank in all places needful, Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke rivers, viz.*

“ Grant, from or near a corner below Clay hithe ferry.

“ Mildenhall and Brandon rivers, from their entrance into the fens, or from some more convenient place.

“ Stoke river, from Stoke causey, unto the places where they fall into Ouse. And to do any thing else needful for the preservation of the said banks; and to amend and enlarge the said rivers where need is: And the banks and indikes to be laid so far asunder

as six commissioners of sewers shall think fit, (four of the isle of Ely, or respectively where the work is done) with convenient access to the rivers, as aforesaid.

“ And to make sufficient land-cause and banks in all places needful, so near the skirts of the upland, as six commissioners shall think fit, to convey the waters to the rivers.

“ And if any person shall maliciously cut, break up or cast down any bank made, or hereafter to be made, for this draining, and shall not within fourteen days after publication made in the parish church where the offence shall be done, surrender himself to a justice of the peace, and in fourteen days after pay the fine the said justice shall think sufficient for the amending the damage, and double damages to the party indamaged, that then the offenders shall be adjudged felons.

“ And that the undertakers, their heirs and assigns, for draining, and preserving, and perpetual maintenance of the same draining, shall have for ever in severalty one hundred and twelve thousand acres statute measure, to be taken and proportioned out of every particular manor, or out of any other ten or low grounds within the limits, &c. by commissioners thereto assigned, according to their discretion, and to distinguish what number of acres shall be so taken out.

“ And that the undertakers shall have all the soil, waters and fishings of all the new rivers.

“ And the undertakers to take no profits of the grounds, but as they shall finish the draining of every manor,

manor, so to enter into the grounds proportioned within the same manor.

“ But if any of the fens, &c. fall out to be again overflowed, then there shall be reasonable recompence made to the parties damnified, by the governor, out of the one hundred and twelve thousand acres assigned for the perpetual maintenance and preservation of the said draining; to be assessed by any six justices of the peace (whereof two to be of the Quorum) where such surrounding shall happen, payable when they shall appoint; and an action of debt to lie against the governors for the same, with damage for non-payment, &c. And if all the profit of the one hundred and twelve thousand acres will not make satisfaction, then the whole must; and the parties damnified, according to their several estates, shall enter into all again, until the fens shall be recovered again by new draining or repairs at the undertakers cost, &c.

“ The undertakers to finish the works within three years next after this parliament.

“ And after the said draining, there shall be a *Corporation*, body politic, or a company of thirty known, discreet, and sufficient persons, by the name of the Governors of the Fens within the Isle of Ely, and the Counties adjoining: And they shall be enabled to purchase and part with lands, &c. and to sue and be sued by that name. And the first to be these:—* Martin, bishop of Ely. Sir Anthony Mildmay. * Sir John Peyton, governor of Guernsey. Sir Oliver Cromwell. * Sir Robert Bevel. Sir Edward Coke, attorney. * Sir John Cutts. * Sir John Heigham. * Sir Robert Wingfield. * Sir Robert Cotton. * Sir Edward Apelly. * Sir Henry Warner.

Warner. * Sir Miles Sandes. * Sir Simeon Stuart.
 * Sir Thomas Lambert. Sir William Rumney, knts.
 Humphry Tyndal, dean of Ely. * Anthony Irby.
 Thomas War. Thomas Rawlyne. Henry Totnal,
 esqrs. John Eldred. Roger Offield, of London,
 merchant, * John Fincham, and John Hunt, gents.

Those mark'd thus * were Commissioners of Sewers.

“ And as these do die, new to be chosen by the
 most voices out of such lords or undertakers, as shall
 have one thousand acres at the least of lands assigned
 to the undertakers as aforesaid.”

The new Podike being found too narrow for
 passing the waters through into the Ouse, lord chief
 justice Popham ordered a new river to be made,
 eighty feet wide, from March river to the Podike
 at Nordelph, and the Well creek below that to be
 diiked sixty feet wide, and sunk as deep as the Ouse,
 that thereby the fens in the isle of Ely might be
 drained, and the extreme floods received. The fall
 at Salter's lode, from the soil of the fens to the low
 water mark in the river Ouse, was then ten feet.

The 7th of August, 1605, this new river was be-
 gun, Mr, Richard Atkins then by; and the work
 was prosecuted so well, that upon the 21st of De-
 cember following the waters were let through it to
 ease the isle, and help Well river.

But Mr. Atkins faith, (my lord Popham dying) it
 was stopped up, in regard of the insufficiency of
 the banks; till four years after, June 7, 1609, it
 was again pursued to be perfected, and was cast two
 feet deeper, for the benefit of most part of the Isle of
 Ely.

But

But this river being hotly pursued at the first making, went on without any satisfaction made for the several grounds which were cut through to make it, or the commons, by which it passed. Hereupon Sinolphus Bell, esq. of Beaupre hall in Outwell, having much ground adjoining yearly drowned by this new river, (called Popham lode) obtained by a view of the commissioners, a law to keep the upper doors thereof shut, until the country would satisfy the parties injured; and also, to fortify the banks, that his grounds should not thereby be hurt.

And the doors at the upper end were accordingly kept shut, so that no waters could pass through this new river. "Which river (saith Mr. Atkins) was a worthy one, and well placed, having from Well town-end to Salter's lode, which is a little above four miles, more fall than there is thought to be between Peterborough and Well, which is forty miles and more, as the water cometh.

"This famous new river being stopped, the country lay in its former condition; and my lord Popham dying, his whole project was rejected: and so nothing was done. And the level, by reason of the division there was between the commissioners of sewers, &c. who had no power to make new works, and because the country wanted proper drains, &c. continued to be greatly annoyed with water, which gave occasion to the undertaking for a GENERAL DRAINING OF THE FENS.*"

The opposition which prevailed, and the undetermined state of affairs, at this time, seemed to threaten total destruction to the great level. The power of the commissioners of sewers to make new works by tax

* Badeflade.

tax or rate, was even questioned, 'till the opinion of sir Henry Hobart, attorney-general, was obtained by the privy-council, 1616: but notwithstanding their power received this force, things remained in the same distracted and perilous condition.

In a petition from the commissioners to the lords and others of his majesty's privy-council, June 19, 1618, they confine the means of effecting a general drainage to these two considerations:

I. That it be provided, that the three ancient rivers of Nene, Welland, and Ouse, may be conveyed to the sea by their several passages, with such convenient outfalls, as shall be fittest for the several good and safety of all parts.

II. That care be taken of the town of Lynn, the country of Marshland and Wiggenhall, the hundred of Wisbech, and part of Holland.

On this representation sir Clement Edmonds, knt. was appointed to accompany a committee of the commissioners of sewers on a view, who made the following report with regard to the Ouse:

“ My Lords,—The river Ouse coming along by the town of Bedford, Huntingdon, and St. Ives, and so passing down to his outfall at Lynn, is a goodly fair river throughout; and from below Ely downward runneth with such a current, that as it is absolutely the best sewer of all that country, so it is by the great fall of waters thereinto, as well from the river of Grant out of Cambridgeshire, as from the drains which come out of the Isle of Ely, much overcharged in winter, and in time of floods, to the prejudice of the adjacent parts: For remedy whereof former times have

have provided some by-sewers or flakers, and among others the West-water at Erith bridge below St. Ives, to receive part of the overcharge of water, and to ease the river where it is *narrow* and *knare*, and the *country* apt to be overflowed; and to carry it through the isle of Ely (though otherwise to their prejudice) down again into the *same river* by *divers drains* and *inlets*, where the *channel* for *breadth* and *depth* affords better passage and conveyance to the *sea*: but now the said West-water doth run a contrary course for want of cleansing and *diking*, and falleth into Ouse at Erith bridge, where it should take his *course* out, as appeared upon *view* of the *committees*, to the overcharging of the said river, instead of flaking or disburthening the same."

In pursuance of an order from the lords, the earl of Arundel, sir William Ayloff, knt. bart. Anthony Thomas, esq. and others, took a view of the fens, and caused Mr. Hoxham, surveyor to the earl, to make a map thereof. "And they (to use their own words) having the assistance of some rare engineers which met them, and receiving and making special observations of these countries, resolved (by God's help) at their own and their friends charges and expences, without raising or levying any taxes, contributions, or sums of money, of or upon the inhabitants of those countries, or any his majesty's subjects, to venture the enterprising of the draining or all, or the most part; yea, of many thousand acres of the fens, or surrounded grounds, and to make them dry, and to be good and profitable meadows and pastures, and so to continue."

They laid this design before the privy-council, at the court at Greenwich, the 17th of May, 1619, and desired to have these following conditions or con-

tracts to be made to them, and confirmed by good and lawful assurance.

*‘ Of all the king’s majesty’s lands drowned with fresh
‘ or salt water in several counties, which we shall
‘ recover and make dry, the fee-farm rent of four-
‘ pence per acre, over and above all rents or reve-
‘ nues now in being, or coming to his majesty.*

*‘ Of all the prince’s highness lands, the like contract
‘ respectively.*

Of all the subjects lands—*‘ 1. Which are so drown-
‘ ed or surrounded all the year, to have two third
‘ parts of all the same lands to us and our heirs, to
‘ be allowed and assigned to hold in severality and
‘ perpetuity for ever.*

*‘ 2. And all those lands which are by half the year’s
‘ space, or more than half the year drowned; to
‘ have the one half of the same lands to us and our
‘ heirs in perpetuity.*

*‘ And we hope, by God’s grace, speedily to drain
‘ a great part of the said fens; and all, or the most
‘ part, within three years after the contracts made
‘ with his majesty and his subjects.’*

The king and council approving these offers, wrote to the commissioners, desiring them to co-operate with the laudable endeavours of the undertakers. But the court of sewers let them know, that *before they begun any works, they should give security that they would not impair the navigation in the rivers of Ouse, Nene, &c.* And when they had given security, they should shew the country the means they intended in the draining of the level, that they might be satisfi-
ed

fied there would be *no prejudice of navigation in the rivers Ouse and Grant, or hurt done to Marshland.* If it was believed there would, all farther proceedings were to be stayed,

But the undertakers desiring that they might not be pressed to discover the means in every particular, until their agreement with the country was made perfect and sure; and the commissioners having no power to give the undertakers any man's land without his voluntary consent, and of agreeing with them; and on this occasion many debates arising, that made either side unable to come to a conclusion, the undertakers represented these difficulties to the privy-council, and thereupon letters were written from that board, Feb. 29, 1720, "to the lords, knights, and gentlemen concerned in the fens, commanding them to attend his majesty,"

Accordingly they did attend, when the undertakers were ordered to exhibit satisfactory proofs in writing, "What it was they promised to effect, and what they demanded as a recompence for their labour," which they did, in proposals delivered to the commissioners April 13, 1621, as also their demand or proportion of each fen.

After some time spent in fruitless altercation, as to the terms, mode, and security, his majesty, who was not willing to let the country suffer by any further delay, did himself undertake (by a law of sewers) that great work.

But, as sir William Dugdale says, whether it was the great disturbance his majesty had about this time, and after, till the end of his reign, for the regaining the Palatinate, &c. or what else was the impediment,

we shall not take upon us to say; but certain it is, nothing was done during that king's reign, nor until the 5th of Charles I. Then Francis earl of Bedford, who was owner of near twenty thousand acres in Thorney and Whittlesey, was importuned by the country, and by the commissioners of sewers, to undertake this great work of draining. And to secure the said earl in his reward for so doing, to provide for the security of navigation, &c. a law of sewers was made at Lynn, Jan. 13, 1630, specifying the conditions and restrictions at large; to which forty-one commissioners present put their hands and seals. (See this law in the fourth section of Badeslade's History.)

This law being made, the earl of Bedford fell in hand with the work; and the better to pursue this noble undertaking, he took in divers participants, viz. Oliver earl of Bolingbroke, Edward lord Gorges, sir Robert Heath, sir Miles Sandys, sir William Ruffel, sir Robert Bevill, sir Thomas Terringham, sir Philip Vernat, William Sams, doctor of law, Anthony Hammond, esq. Samuel Spalding, Andrew Burwell, gent. sir Robert Lovet, &c. who were to raise money for carrying on the work proportionable to the number of shares each had, each share being four thousand acres. And they began the work; and in order to carry off the superfluous water wherewith the fens was much annoyed, caused these several canals to be made, viz.

Bedford river (now called Old Bedford) extending from Erith to Salter's lode, seventy feet wide, and twenty-one miles long, to take off the high floods from the river Ouse, and placed at each end thereof a sluice of great strength.

Sam's cut, from Feltwell to Ouse, twenty feet broad, and six miles long.

A cut to drain Mildenhall river in Burnt fen near Littleport, forty feet wide, and two miles long.

Bevil's leam from Whittlesey mere to Guyhirn, forty feet wide, and ten miles long,

And likewise made a great fass at Well creak-end, at Salter's lode, to keep the tides out of that river.

And to the end they might accomplish this so great undertaking, and preserve the works after compleated;

The said earl and his participants did, the 10th of Charles I. obtain letters patent of incorporation, bearing date March 13, 1634, which being accomplished, the works aforesaid were carried on; and about three years after, in a session of sewers holden at Peterborough, Octob. 12, Car. 13. the level was adjudged drained; and ninety-five thousand acres were set out by six or more commissioners unto the said earl of Bedford, his heirs and assigns. The charge of the said work to the said earl and his participants having been one hundred thousand pounds.

But notwithstanding this great expence, it was evidently discerned, that though the lands were much improved by those works, yet were they subject to inundation, especially in the winter season; and therefore in a session of sewers held at Huntingdon, April 12, the year ensuing, the said earl of Bedford's undertaking was adjudged defective.

Hereupon king Charles I. taking this business into his princely consideration, and foreseeing that if this

level of four hundred thousand acres could be made winter lands, they would be of extraordinary benefit to the commonwealth, viz. of 600,000*l.* per ann. value, according to the estimation of sir Cornelius Vermuyden, as also a certain and great revenue to all persons interested; his majesty was therefore pleased to undertake, at his own charge, to make the level winter grounds.

And for the better performing thereof, he commanded divers persons, expert in such adventures, to give their advice how these lands might be made winter-grounds.

Amongst these artists was sir Cornelius Vermuyden, a Dutchman, who had purchased of the king the level of Hatfield chace; one half of which chace, viz. ninety thousand acres were hurtfully drowned, and he undertook to reduce it to constant arable and pasture grounds, and which he at last did, at the incredible labour and charges of above four hundred thousand pounds. They all agreed that it was feasible, but differed much in the manner or way to accomplish it. Sir Cornelius Vermuyden's scheme had the preference. And July 18, 1638, the king was declared undertaker. And was to have not only those ninety-five thousand acres, which had been set out for the earl of Bedford, but also fifty-seven thousand acres more from the country, his majesty's design being to make the land good winter grounds.

And the earl of Bedford, in consideration of the cost he had been at, was to have forty thousand of the ninety-five thousand acres.

The

The king, to manifest his earnest and real purposes for the speedy draining, caused several works to be done.

But here, says Dugdale, we come to a period of this excellent prince's design. For he being forced to raise an army against the Scots in 1638, and continuing the rest of his life involved in an unnatural war at home, the level lay neglected, and the country complaining they had received no benefit by the draining, they entered upon the ninety-five thousand acres again, which had been taken from them.

Soon as the king was dead, (viz. anno 1641) Francis earl of Bedford, and his participants, made their application to the then parliament, and had their case committed: but the civil war hindering them from any further prosecution of this undertaking, it occasioned the works made by him and by the king, to decay and become in a great measure useless, nor were there any new works made.

Until 1649, William earl of Bedford, son and heir to the late Francis, being willing to prosecute a work, wherein his father had been so great an adventurer, made his address in behalf of himself and others his participants, to the convention parliament at Westminster. And he obtained an act (the 29th of May in the year aforesaid) entitled, *An Act for Draining the Great Level of the Fens, &c.* which declared the said William earl of Bedford, and his participants, to be the undertakers of the work of draining the said great level, and ordered, "That they should at, or before the 10th day of October, which should be in the year of our Lord 1656, cause the same to be drained and imbanked without prejudice to navigation in the rivers or parts adjacent; and all the

said level should be made winter ground, in such manner as the said rivers, or any of them, should not overflow the grounds within the said level. And for bearing the charge of draining, and maintaining the works from time to time, should have and enjoy he said whole ninety-five thousand acres, as the same had heretofore been set forth in October, in the 13th year of the reign of the late king Charles I. or hereafter should, by virtue of this act, be allotted, &c."

And as Charles I. preferred sir Cornelius Vermuyden's scheme for draining, and followed it when he imbanked Morton's-learn, setting the banks in some places a mile asunder, for the waters to bed in; so did the earl in making the New Bedford river and receptacle,

But this practice Van Westerdyke, who was sent for to view the fens, says, sir Cornelius could give him no reasons for. And John Bavents Westerdyke, who viewed the fens in 1650, farther says, "Experience will shew, that waters kept together in a body pass swiftly, and mend their channel; but divided and dispersed pass away very slowly, and in time lose their channel."—Atkins is of this opinion.

Col, Dodson, who writ a piece for draining, (and was director of the Corporation of Adventurers works) saith, p. 7, "But I wish that those banks which are upon Bedford river and Morton's-learn had not been placed at so great distance one from another." And indeed many arguments were printed against Vermuyden's scheme, and against setting banks of rivers at a great distance asunder, about the time of the undertaking the draining.

Mr.

Mr. Edmund Scotton wrote a piece, intituled, "A desperate and dangerous design discovered concerning the fen countries," in answer to sir Cornelius Vermuyden's "Discourse touching the draining of the great fens," &c. And lord Gorges declared in writing, "That it was ever his opinion, that the better way of draining this South Level (for whose benefit alone the sluices were intended) is by banks without any sluices at all at Denver, according to the certain rules of draining, which is to imbank all rivers and brook waters; and never to put sluices upon such waters as have a continual body to preserve their channels or outfalls from silting up by tides."

There were also several pieces printed about this time against sir Cornelius Vermuyden's scheme by the inhabitants of the fens; and others who endeavoured to prove how prejudicial his scheme, if carried into execution, would be to *drainage* and *navigation*; notwithstanding which, A. D. 1650, the undertakers for draining the fens did execute that scheme, and sluices were by them decreed to be made near Salter's lode, cross the river Ouse, beneath the mouths of Stoke, Brandon, Mildenhall, and Grant rivers, to stop the tidal flood from putting into any of them: and also the New Bedford river was decreed to be digged from Salter's lode to Erith, in length twenty-one miles; and sluices were also by the said corporation decreed to be set down cross the old channel of Ouse at the Hermitage near Erith, to turn the waters out of their ancient course down the said New Bedford river, according to sir Cornelius Vermuyden's project.

We cannot help observing, that the expence of executing this artificial scheme was calculated at but 8000*l.* less than the charge would have been of imbanking

banking the natural rivers, and following the known sure rules of draining; and there was so great a division amongst the adventurers which method to follow, that the majority for sluicing the river Ouse was but one vote; and that majority was occasioned by the private interest of — who had some lands in the South Level.

As soon as the corporations of the university and town of Cambridge, and of King's Lynn, had knowledge of this decree of the adventurers to erect sluices cross the great river Ouse, they being apprehensive that such sluices would utterly destroy navigation, they petitioned the commissioners that were appointed by the act in 1649, to judge between the country and the adventurers, in the most moving terms against such sluices being built.

And, continues Mr. Badeflade, “ Notwithstanding all these restraints, remonstrances, and reasons to the contrary, yet in opposition to the laws of their country—to the rules of draining—to their own act of parliament, they did build sluices cross the river of Great Ouse, at Erith, and at Denver hith.”

Besides repeated petitions from Lynn Regis and Cambridge, the town of Brandon and borough of Thetford remonstrated against the erecting of Denver sluice, &c.

The adventurers, to justify themselves against the petitioners complaints before the parliament, made the following objections:

“ That instead of the old little rivers, they have
 “ given another new river, called Bedford River,
 “ which is as large and open, and a receptacle at
 “ least

“ least equivalent, if not better than what they have
“ taken away: that the tides do flow as high into
“ the the country as formerly, with this advantage,
“ that they flow and return now by a strait channel
“ instead of a crooked.

“ It was the dryness of the season, and not the
“ undertakers works, that had prejudiced navigation;
“ for if the springs are dry, the stream must needs
“ fail.—That the city of London do not petition
“ in regard the navigation of the Thames was never
“ so bad.

“ The commissioners hearing all objections, and
“ after examination of witnesses upon oath, and af-
“ ter their own view upon the place, have adjudged
“ the fens drained according to the act.

“ It was proved upon the adjudication, that full
“ as much, if not more, fresh water did run out at
“ Lynn haven as formerly.

“ The raising the price of water-carriage was a
“ contrivance of watermen, and some of ability of-
“ fered to carry as cheap as ever.

“ In former times there never was any constant
“ summer navigation to Cambridge: This last sum-
“ mer there was.

“ In regard the petitions of Lynn and Cambridge
“ tend to the overthrowing the whole work of drain-
“ ing, and call in question matters of fact adjudged
“ by the commissioners upon their view; therefore
“ the petitioners are not to be relieved even in par-
“ liament.”

When

When Charles II. was restored to the crown, the acts of the late lord protector became invalid; consequently that of 1649, under colour of which the works complained of were made, was no longer in force: so that the undertakers for draining stood upon the foot of the law made by the commissioners of sewers, anno 6 Car. I. and became subject to the general commission of sewers: which perplexing the said undertakers, they procured an act of parliament the 15th of Car. II. entitled, *An Act for settling the Draining of the great Level of the Fens, called Bedford Level*; by which they were incorporated by the name of “The Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of
“the Company of Conservators of the Great Level
“of the Fens, called Bedford Level, to have perpetual succession for ever.” And it is therein enacted:

“That the Governor, six Bailiffs, and twenty
“Conservators, or any five or more, should be Commissioners of Sewers within the said Level, and
“the works without the said Level, for conveying
“the Waters of the said Level to sea.

“That no other Commissioners of Sewers shall
“intermeddle, &c.”

Upon passing this act, the town of Lynn did, by their representatives, oppose the continuing of the dam and sluices made cross the river Ouse at Denver and at Erith, and they procured some favourable clauses to be inserted in the said act.

The corporation of Lynn complained to these commissioners, anno 1669, 1676, and 1677, of the prejudices done to their navigation by the said corporation of fen-drainers, and represented their increasing

creasing danger of total loss of it; but could obtain no relief, while the commissioners that were named in the act lived. And as they died, for want of nomination in succession, as mentioned in the aforesaid act of parliament, this judicature became extinct, and the remedies prescribed by the said act consequently determined.

Several affidavits, and other evidences, were adduced, to convince parliament how much Denver sluice, &c. had effected the decay of the river, haven and channel, at and below Lynn.

Edmund Hooke, esq. mayor of King's Lynn, addressed a letter, dated Jan. 6, 1695, to the duke of Bedford, then governor of the adventurers, beseeching his grace to use his influence and authority with the corporation in behalf of the navigation. This letter was delivered by sir H. Hobart, of Blickling, R. Walpole, esq. of Houghton, sir John Turner, of Lynn, and sir Charles Turner, of Warham; but receiving no satisfactory answer, a bill was brought into parliament by sir Charles Turner, "For the better preservation of the port of King's Lynn." As also petitions from Marshland, university and borough of Cambridge, borough of Thetford, St. Edmund's Bury, Brandon, Stoke, and many towns in and by the south level. The bill was twice read, and opposed by petitions from the county and borough of Huntingdon, Ely, the adventurers, &c. when, after council and witness had been heard on both sides, the motion for committing the bill passed in the negative.

The state of draining remained in a precarious uncertainty from the time of erecting Denver sluices, at 7000l. expence, 1651, till they were undermined
first,

first, and afterwards blown up and destroyed by the tides from sea, anno 1713. Badeflade says the Ouse at Denver hithe was formerly one hundred and fifty feet wide, whereas the water-way through the sluices is now only eighty feet. The same writer, after enumerating various causes and consequences, adds, "By that power (meaning a clause in an act of parliament, authorising the adventurers to extend their works without the level) were Denver sluices built, and St. John's Eau and Tong's drain made; which works have almost destroyed the outfall of the river Ouse, the draining in the fens, and the navigation of Lynn."*

Besides the works of draining maintained by the adventurers in the north and middle level, the corporation charge themselves with the following in the south level, which comprehends all the fen-lands east of the Old Bedford river, in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire, and bears a proportion of one seventeenth to the draining taxes

South bank of the river Ouse, from the hard lands of Swacey, &c. to the Hermitage, and the fass or sluice there.

The river called New Bedford River, from the Hermitage to Salter's lode, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes and sluices thereof.

The drain that leads from Ewel fen to Audrey causeway, and from thence into the Old Ouse at Audrey bridge.

Grunty fen drain, from Grunty fen to the Old Ouse, at Littleport chair, with its banks.

Part

* Badeflade.

Part of Old Welney river.

Littleport drain.

Maid lode and Modney drain, with the sluices to the same.

The drain that carries away Hogginton brook, with the banks to be raised.

The river Grant, from Clay hithe to Harrimere, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes, and sluices thereof.

The banks of Old Ouse, from Harrimere to Chitlings.

The new long drain from Wicken-high fen to the tunnel, under Soham new river, and so to the tunnel under Mildenhall river; from thence to the tunnel under Brandon river, and so to the tunnel under Stoke river; and from thence through Downham Eau to the sluice, at the lower end thereof near Stow bridge.

The east banks of Ouse, from Harrimere to the Brick sluice, at Prick-willow, within the wear-dike thereof.

The new bank on the west side of the river Ouse from Harrimere to Ely high-bridge.

The drains from the east end of the Adventurers lands, taken out of Soham common, to the wear-dike of Mildenhall river.

Mildenhall river, with the banks, forelands, and wear-dikes thereof.

The east banks of the river Ouse, from Mildenhall river to the sluice at the lower end of Mildenhall drain, near Littleport chair.

Mildenhall drain, from the last-mentioned sluice to Mildenhall common.

The river Ouse, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes, sluices, and tunnels thereof from Littleport-chair to Denver dam, excepting the sluices, tunnels, and water-works heretofore made and maintained by Edmund Skipwith, esq. deceased, and other particular owners of lands within or near the said great level, for his or their own private benefit.

Lakenheath drain, from Wainsford brook to the tunnel under Lakenheath new lode, and so to the tunnels under Brandon river.

Brandon river, with the banks, forelands, and wear-dikes thereto belonging.

Feltwell drain, to its outfall into the river of Ouse at Palmer's house.

Sam's cut, from Feltwell to the river Ouse.

Stoke river, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes and sluices.

A tunnel under Methwold lode for the draining of Northwold fens.

Roxham drain, with the banks thereof.

These works and drains are, from time to time, preserved and maintained at the costs and charges of
the

the said corporation and their successors, owners of the said ninety-five thousand acres mentioned in the act of the 15th of Charles II. and not by the owners of any of the lands within the said great level, other than of the said ninety-five thousand acres; except in cases where particular contracts have been made by the said corporation†.

The only possible means, says Badesslade, of making the tides and freshes capable (as they heretofore were) of working these useful and desirable effects, is to give nature her way; and to assist her where needful; as is advised by the honourable Col. John Armstrong, his majesty's now engineer-general, in the report he made to the Right Hon. Robert Walpole, esq. and to the Right Hon. Henry earl of Lincoln, the 12th of May, 1724, viz.

“ 1. To open the Old Ouse from Harrimere to Hermitage, near Erith, to its ancient breadth and depth; and with the earth that comes out of it, to form banks on the sides thereof, to prevent the land-floods or freshes overflowing the adjacent lands in the winter.

“ 2. To remove the gravels near Stretham, or wherever else they are to be found in the river Ouse, or other impediments, to the end the land-floods, whenever they descend, may find out a quick passage to sea, and carry off all the silt and sand they meet in their way.

“ 3. To take up the remains of Denver sluices, or make a new cut just by them, to render the river (now but eighty feet wide) in this place one hundred and fifty feet wide, as it formerly was; so that the tides may have full liberty to flow up by the Ouse
f into

into their ancient receptacles, viz. the rivers Stoke, Brandon, Mildenhall and Grant, which will contain a sufficient indraught of back-water for deepening the Ouse upon its return, and thereby restoring its navigation within land; as well as giving the land-floods, when they descend, a swifter passage to discharge themselves by the port of Lynn into the sea,

“ 4. To take up the sluice, or falls, now at the Hermitage upon the river Ouse near Erith, and if it shall be thought necessary, to set it down again in the New Bedford river, or one hundred feet cut near the said Hermitage, for the benefit of navigation only. And thereby to send the land-floods down the river Ouse, their natural channel, which must as afore-mentioned have good effect; and prevent their descending for the future by the New Bedford river, and running unnaturally, as they for some years past have been observed to do, (for many days together) to the great damage of the river Ouse; and if not timely remedied, will be the total destruction of navigation upon that river, and the other rivers upward towards Cambridge, as it is already that of Draining.

“ By this method, I am humbly of opinion, that the land-floods, or freshes, being turned into the river Ouse, their natural channel, joined to the reflux of the tide; which will now have a much larger indraught for a back-water, than it hath had for many years before; will infallibly deepen the Ouse in a very little time to its ancient depth, by driving out to sea the sand and silt with which it is now very near choaked up; and thereby not only render all the fens capable of being drained effectually, but all the rivers that fall into it, will be, by being deepened, made capable of carrying as large barges or boats as
ever

ever they did heretofore; and besides, it will deepen and clear out the haven of Lynn, and the channel from thence down to sea.

“JOHN ARMSTRONG.”

May 10, 1724.

And it is Mr. Badeflade's firm opinion, “That these fens, though now they be totally drowned, will some few ages hence (if the method proposed by Col. Armstrong be executed) become good meadow land.”

A deputation from Lynn waited on the corporation of adventurers at Ely, August 1724, with Col. Armstrong's report: at the same time Mr. Charles Bridgman presented a report and scheme on the part of the adventurers, which they soon after gave up, yet did not adopt the other.

Mr. Badeflade's scheme, printed in 1729, “The method to drain the fens I humbly conceive must be:

“To do with the Ouse, what nature hath done to all other rivers, and what she would have done to this new one, if she had had as many ages for her operations here, as she hath had on the old rivers.

“To make the Ouse wide in proportion to its length, and in proportion to the waters that should be conveyed through it to sea.

“To make this river that hath not had this vast confluence of waters lead to it above six or seven hundred years, and great part of that time hath been obstructed by sluices, and not only confined from

being worn wider by the water at the four bridges, but hath been encroached upon and made narrow, and is the narrowest river in the world for its length. To make this river as wide in some measure, as it would have been if all these waters (that have this course in default of their former outfall) had had their course through it originally.

“ To make this river that hath more land to drain, and hath more fresh water to convey to sea than hath the Thames, in some measure capacious like the Thames.

“ To make the river Ouse, from Denver to seaward, *wide* enough to receive and convey through its banks the high-country freshes, which for want of room to get to sea in reasonable time, do overflow and hurtfully surround the Great Level of the Fens.”

Messrs. Chicheley, Kinderley, &c. in a scheme published in 1721, proposed making the outfall *narrower*, in order to drain the fens.

Capt. Perry proposed, Feb. 6, 1729, sluicing the Ouse in many places, in order to drain the fens by *artificial sewers*.

According to a survey delivered by Mr. William Hayward, upon oath, July 13, 1605, the whole of the fen-lands in the Great Bedford Level amount to three hundred and seven thousand two hundred and forty-two acres.

The particular quantities and qualities of the eighty-three thousand acres, sorted, rated and valued, by the commissioners under the 20th of Charles II. shewing the quantity of land of each of the eleven
sorts,

forts, and how much each fort raises on a single tax. The other twelve thousand acres, called the King's Land, and the two thousand acres, called the Earl of Portland's Lands, are taxed at fifteen pence per acre, when the eighty-three thousand acres are rated at a single tax and a quarter of a single tax; but that sum is increased in proportion with the eighty-three thousand acres, when they are taxed higher than a tax and a quarter; decreased, in the same proportion, when they are taxed lower.

Sorts Tax.	A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
D.						
1. 4	7591	0	0	126	10	4
2. 8	17710	2	0	590	7	0
3. 12	26715	1	0	1335	14	0
4. 16	22628	0	0	1508	10	8
5. 20	4642	2	0	386	17	6
6. 24	1670	3	0	167	1	6
7. 28	789	0	0	92	1	0
8. 32	447	3	32	59	14	0
9. 36	368	0	0	55	4	0
10. 40	53	0	0	8	16	8
11. 44	384	0	8	70	8	0
	<u>83000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4401</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>

The amount of a whole tax on the eighty-three thousand acres, exclusive of the twelve thousand acres 4401 5 8

At a meeting held the third of November, 1774, at the Shire-hall at Ely, pursuant to advertisement, to take the sense of the country respecting the distressed state of the Middle and South Levels; the country then present did request the corporation to make an application to the parliament, to impose a temporary tax, not exceeding six-pence per acre, to continue not longer than seven years, upon all the adventurers and free-lands in the Middle and South Levels, together with a tax on the tonnage of navigation carried through the said levels; for the effectual draining and preserving the same, by such ways and means as should be agreed on between the country and corporation, to be specified in the act to be obtained for that purpose: which said resolution was taken into consideration at the annual April meeting of the corporation, holden at Ely this day, and it was then agreed, that a sum should be raised, equal to the amount of sixpence per acre, upon the free-lands within the Middle and South Levels, (commons excepted) to be proportionably assessed, according to the different value thereof, to be estimated by the general acre tax, to which the adjacent adventure lands are now subject; and also that two-pence an acre should be raised upon the commons, without any regard to their value. Which taxes shall be continued for seven years, and no longer; and be applied to the GENERAL DRAINAGE.

The terms upon which the above taxes are agreed to be raised, are as follows:

First, That the corporation shall assess the adventure-lands, at a tax and an half, during the continuance of the aforesaid new taxes.

Secondly, That a further tax, equal to the amount of six-pence per acre, shall be raised upon all the
adventure

adventure-lands, by a gradual acre tax, in the like manner as their present taxes are raised.

Thirdly. That a tonnage be laid upon all goods carried to Lynn and Wisbech by water, out of the country, and from Lynn and Wisbech up into the country. The quantum of which tonnage is proposed to be settled between the corporation and the merchants and others interested therein.

Fourthly, That the taxes to be raised on the free-lands shall be applied to the purposes of this act, under the direction of a committee to be chosen by the owners of such free-lands.

The works intended to be done will be set out and particularly described in the bill to be offered to parliament, copies whereof will be timely distributed throughout the country.

The great works proposed to be done are,

First, To obtain a sufficient outfall to sea, near Lynn, by such methods as was formerly proposed by Mr. Kinderley, or by such other means as shall be judged more advisable, by able engineers: next, to deepen the great rivers, to wit, the river from Wisbech to Standground; the Old and New Bedford; the rivers Nene, Ouse, Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke; and afterwards to do such other works, as shall be for the "benefit of navigation and drainage."

Each level to have the benefit of its own taxes, and the tonnage for making good the great outfalls.

Published by order of the Board, April 20, 1775.

Mr. William Elftobb, in his observations on the foregoing resolutions, printed in 1776, says: "And as these ninety-five thousand acres were allotted upon those conditions, it became necessary to charge them with an annual taxation, and as at first the whole was considered as one single plot, the land was promiscuously rated by an acre-tax; but afterwards for the more orderly management and better regulation, the whole tract was divided into three distinct districts, or levels, viz. the North Level, the Middle Level, and the South Level. And, in the taxation, the lands were rated according to their several different qualities, by a gradual and proportional acre-tax, of eleven different sorts or degrees, in such a manner, that when the annual tax upon the whole

	£.	s.	d.
95000 acres amounts to	—	5051	7 2
It is called a single tax, out of which			
the North Level paid	—	621	14 8 $\frac{3}{4}$

And the Middle and South Levels	4429	12	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
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And when the said lands are rated in such a manner as they call a tax and one-fourth, the whole amount

is	—	6314	3 11
Out of which the North Level paid	—	777	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

And the Middle and South Levels	5537	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
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And this is said to have been a pretty usual tax.

When the aforesaid lands are rated at a tax and a half, which is something more than common, the whole amount is

7577	0	9
		Out

	£.	s.	d.
Out of which the North Level paid	93 ²	12	0 ^½
And the Middle and South Levels	6644	8	8 ^¼

These taxes used to be employed to the support and maintenance, and making such new works as were thought necessary, in any or all the levels indifferently, or as occasion might require, and the security of money borrowed rested upon the whole revenue indiscriminately, 'till about the year 1728, the North Level was put upon a separate management from the other two, at which time it is said the corporation bond debts amounted to —

16300 0 0

And that from that time to Lady-day, 1752, there was borrowed for the service of the Middle and South Levels

15840 0 0

So that the whole of the corporation debt at Lady-day, 1752, was

32140 0 0

“What the state of their finances may have been since that time, I cannot take upon me to determine. I shall only observe, that though the North Level was then under a separate management, yet its taxes were not under any particular appropriation till about the year 1753, when an act of parliament was obtained for *appropriating them* to the sole use of *that level*, to fix them at a certain determinate limitation of a tax, or ——— and to disengage them from all obligations for money borrowed, or that had been borrowed by the corporation before that time; and from

from that time the said level was to be entirely taken from the direction of the corporation, and to be put under the direction of certain commissioners nominated for that purpose, under which direction it now stands.

“ In all ordinary cases of contract, it is looked upon, that the work undertaken, should be completed for the reward stipulated and the recompence given.

“ But after more than an hundred years enjoyment of the reward, the country are now told by the undertakers, that the work cannot be completed without further aid and assistance.

“ Perhaps it may be said, that one of the great works intended to be done, is the making of a new strait cut from some where near St. Germans, or St. Peter's, to Lynn, as was formerly proposed by John Chicheley, esq. and lately by Mr. Kinderley, which it is apprehended will be of advantage to trade and navigation, for which reason all persons interested in trade and commerce *ought* to be contributors.

“ All this appears to be equitable and right, provided they could be fully satisfied they should obtain the advantage which Mr. Kinderley and some others are of opinion, would arise from it; but some able engineers, as Badesslade, &c. &c. are of a contrary opinion, and think such a cut would be prejudicial: and some are of opinion that it is unnecessary, and that the present channel might at a less expence be so amended, as to answer the purpose of draining as well as navigation.”

The same writer insists, that the improvement and security of the great level of the fens, “depends upon two principal circumstances.

“The first is the conveying the high-land and foreign waters through them, as much under soil, as calmly, and as expeditiously as possible.

“This can only be done by large and deep rivers, with banks set at moderate distances, to screen and shelter the water running between them, from the violent force of the wind, according to the sentiments, and upon the same principles, as those advanced by Van Scotten, Westerdyke, and almost all the engineers that have wrote since their time upon the subject.

“The second way, is to make separate drains, channels and tunnels, where necessary to lead away the downfall waters, to some lower part of the principal rivers, or to some separate outfall by themselves.”

“As to the intended new cut, I have only to add, that in my humble opinion, the bringing it into the old river a little below Germans, as proposed by Mr. Kinderley, would answer all the expected purposes, as well, as carrying it up to St. Peter’s; will cut through less land, and be attended with less expence, and the old channel may be almost as easily damed over there, as more upward; for in my humble opinion, damed up it must be, or otherwise in a little time the two channels will spoil each other.”

February 10, 1777, the petition, which is now the subject of public controversy, was presented to the House of Commons by sir John Hinde Cotton;
the

the prayer of which runs thus: "Your petitioners
 "humbly pray this honourable house, that leave
 "may be given to bring in a bill, for preserving the
 "drainage of the Middle and South Levels, and
 "the several navigations through the same; and for
 "imposing taxes on the lands within the said levels,
 "and laying tolls on goods conveyed by the said
 "navigations, in order to raise further necessary funds
 "for that purpose."

The committee, to whom the petition was referred, having examined records, estimates, &c made their report the 21st of March following. Amongst the many evidences brought before them,

"Mr. Thomas Hogard, an engineer, being examined, said, that the rain and spring waters, out of part of the counties of Northampton, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Buckingham, Hertford, and Essex, have their course by natural rivers to the sea at Lynn and Wisbech, thro' the Bedford level.

"Mr. John Wing, being examined, said, that the adventure-lands and the free-lands are equally liable to be overflowed; and,

"Charles Nalfon Cole, esq. register to the Bedford Level Corporation, informed your committee, that, since the passing of the act of the 15th year of king Charles II. above five hundred thousand pounds have been expended on the three levels by the said corporation, and that a single tax produces about four thousand pounds a year.

"Your committee then examined Mr. John Brown; who informed them, that the last tax, which was

one whole tax and an half, was laid on the adventure-lands within the middle and south levels for 6628l. 7s. but he could not say how much it produced; that the corporation are not limited in regard to taxation; that the taxes on the adventurers lands have been so high, as to induce the proprietors of near one-sixth part of the whole to abandon their property rather than pay the same; that, in the year 1750, upwards of four thousand acres were so abandoned, and upwards of eight thousand thrown up before were vested in the corporation, and in 1763 upwards of ten thousand acres were in the invested roll, and put up by the corporation to be lett for a year; that in 1763 the tax was laid for 5523l. 12s. 6d. and was one whole tax and an half; that the ten thousand acres were not put up in one lot; that the invested lands are lett by public auction at each April, and for one year only; that no lands are ever vested in the corporation when they will pay the taxes on them; and that, when they are so invested, the corporation cannot sell them without the aid of parliament; that he has heard from one of the members of the Bedford Level Corporation, and has good reason to believe, that there will be a greater number of acres thrown up at the next April meeting than ever was known." And being asked, "Whether the corporation had contracted any debts on account of the middle and south levels;" he said, "They had, amounting to 38,000l. besides expending the taxes; that the said debt has been ever since the commencement in contracting, and is over and above several sums given up to the corporation."

"Mr. Cole being asked, "Whether the corporation, by letting and selling invested lands, had reimbursed themselves the sums laid thereon in taxes?"
said,

said, " They had not, and that he did not know the number of acres at present vested in the corporation for non-payment of the taxes."

" Mr Thomas Hogard being further examined, said, " That, by improvements in agriculture, the downfall is communicated to the several brooks and rivers, and by the amendments of the roads great quantities of water are conveyed through the level to the sea." And being asked, " Whether that additional water from the upland country would not increase the stream, and deepen the rivers; he said, " It would, if the banks were kept up; but that, if they are broke down, the adjacent country would be overflowed."

" In order to shew the state of the navigation on the several rivers running through the said level, Mr. James Golborne was examined; who gave your committee an account, " That, between the 4th of May, 1776, and the 3d of February, 1777, there had passed, on the Hundred-Foot River, two thousand six hundred and nine-two boats and lighters, carrying together twenty-four thousand five hundred and sixty-four tons of goods; and that altogether one thousand two hundred and sixty-five pretty large horses had passed along the banks, employed in hauling the same; that, in the same time, there had passed through Denver sluice, on the Ouse, seven thousand and seventy boats and lighters, conveying fifty-four thousand five hundred and eighty-two tons of goods, and haled by three thousand six hundred and ninety-four horses; and on the Nene and Old Bedford rivers in the same time, four thousand one hundred and one boats and lighters, conveying thirty-two thousand two hundred and thirty-nine tons of goods, and haled by two thousand and fifty-nine horses;

horses; that there had passed Standground sluice on the Nene, from the 16th of May, 1776, to the 2d of February, 1777, three thousand six hundred and seventeen boats and lighters, conveying twenty-three thousand five hundred and three tons of goods, and haled by one thousand six hundred and eleven horses." And being asked, "Whether the banks of the said rivers are damaged by the horses employed in haling vessels going upon them;" he said, "They are, very greatly; that the horses do not draw in a right line one behind the other, but obliquely, and so cover a larger space, and do more damage than would be done by common drawing; and that there is not to his knowledge any compensation made to the Bedford Level Corporation for the damage so done."

"Mr. Hogard being desired to describe the length of each particular bank, of which the said one hundred and seventy miles is composed, he gave the committee the following state of them:

	Miles
The south bank and Morton's leam	12
The Ouse from Denver sluice to the Hermitage	29
The river Cam from Clay hithe to Harrimere	9
Well creak	7
From Well creak to Ramsey lode	20
Whittlesey dike	9
The Forty-foot drain	10
The Old Bedford	21
The New Bedford	21
Swasey bank	3
Stoke river bank	9
Brandon river bank	10
Mildenhall bank	10
	<hr/>
	170
	<hr/>

“ Mr. Knowles, and Mr. Cole, being further examined, said, “ That the mills have been the cause of almost the destruction of the country.”

“ Mr. Hogard being asked, “ Whether he conceived it to be necessary to embank all the rivers in the level ;” he said, “ He did ; and that he had made an estimate of the whole expence.” And being asked, “ Whether, if the rivers were imbanked, it would be necessary to have drains to convey the water into them ;” he said, “ It certainly would, but whether those are works to be done by the corporation, or particular land-owners, he did not know.” And being asked, “ What would be the expence ;” he said, “ His estimate amounts to one hundred and eighty thousand pounds including the sum of twenty-eight thousand pounds for making Kinderly’s cut ; that, if the rivers were imbanked, the floods might rise higher in them than they do now, but they would run off sooner ; that, if the banks were to be calculated merely for the use of the navigation, and not to keep out the floods, they might be made at less expence ; but that such banks would certainly be soon washed away.” Being asked, “ What he thought would be the consequence to the level, if the great river banks were to be lost ;” said, “ The low-lands would be drowned, and the navigation lost.” And he then delivered in to your committee, estimates of the expence of executing the works proposed to be done in the middle and south levels, being part of the Bedford great level ; and also an estimate of the expence of deepening the New Bedford or Hundred-Foot River, and repairing the south bank thereof, from Hermitage to Denver sluice ; and likewise a plan of the intended works, all signed by himself. And being asked, “ Whether he thought Denver sluice an obstruction to the passage of the waters of the south level ; he said,

said, " He did not ; that he could not tell how low the ancient bottom of that sluice was, but that it is now lower than the bed of the river ; that he judged so from having seen a great many roots of trees dragged out of the Ouse above the sluice, which appeared to him as if they had grown upon the bottom of the river."

Mr. Hogard being further examined said, " That, if all the works of the great level should be suffered to go to decay totally, he apprehends, the expence necessary to recover them would be a great deal more than is necessary to preserve them ; he supposed, ten times as much, speaking of the middle and south levels only."

Mr. Cole being asked, " What he had observed in the conduct of the gentlemen who compose the Bedford Level Corporation, in discharge of their duty as trustees for that level ;" he said, " It is a trust of a great deal of business, and consequently great trouble ; that the execution of it is attended with expence to the trustees ; and from the time he had known any thing of the matter, they have discharged it with the greatest fidelity, justice and attention ; when he went to the April meeting in 1773, he passed through a country almost overflowed, from Cambridge to Ely, and found in general, from the conversation he had with people who came to the latter place to attend the business of that meeting, that nothing could equal the general distress of the country ; that he found the receiver general had exhausted all the revenues in his hands ; and that there were considerable outstanding debts unprovided for ; that the streets were crowded with labourers soliciting the payment of their wages, for the maintenance of their families ; that it was the general
g
opinion

opinion of the country, that, from the first of the undertaking to the 15th year of king Charles II. not less than four hundred thousand pounds was expended; that from the 15th of Charles II. to the year 1776, the expences of the Corporation on all the three levels, had amounted to at least five hundred thousand pounds, besides which, they have contracted debts on account of the middle and fourth levels, to the amount of thirty-eight thousand five hundred pounds." And being asked, "Whether all the adventure-lands are not answerable to their full value for the expence of the drainage;" he said, "The Corporation have, by the act of the 15th of Charles II. a power of taxing them, without limitation, for the support and maintenance of the great level." And being asked, "Whether all the persons who have signed the petition are owners of free-land;" he said, "He could not speak to all; but that many of them were, and that he does not know of their consent to the application being signified in any other way than by their signing the petition."

From these, and the depositions of nine other corroborating witnesses, we may readily conclude, "that the drainage and navigation of this vast country must inevitably be lost, unless the free-lands and commercial interest contribute towards the relief of the adventurers."

Mr. Soame Jenyns, in his "Remarks† on the Bill presented to Parliament" observes, "It was the saying of a great minister, (sir Robert Walpole) that the landed men of this country were like sheep who patiently submit to be fleeced in silence, while the trading interest, like the hog, will not suffer a bristle of theirs

theirs to be touched without alarming the whole parish with an outcry. The truth of this observation was never more clearly exemplified, than in the fate of a bill, brought into parliament during the last sessions, which through the ignorance and inattention of the proprietors of some thousand acres of land, who would have been ruined by it, would have passed quietly through the house, had it not been vigorously opposed by the merchants, apprehensive that it might affect their interests."

Further, " Thus we plainly see that this bill is introduced in the name of the adventurers, and under the pretence of their distress, but is in fact an artful scheme of the owners of the free-lands, designed to procure a fund sufficient for draining themselves by doubling that distress by a double tax, fixing a perpetual toll on the navigation, and then slipping off between them unobserved, at the trifling expence of six-pence an acre for seven years only, on their own lands hitherto untaxed; whilst some of the adventure-lands already exhausted, were to be loaded with six or seven shillings."

Again, " But under their present evasive constitution, I am of opinion, they have no right to tax them at all; although they now publicly avow, that it is not only their right but their duty, to exhaust them to the last farthing of their value; which in other words, is telling the adventurers, that they have no property in them.

" The only resource which appeared, was a toll on the navigation; for this they apply, and apply with justice: for as the commerce of the country depends on the preservation of the banks and rivers, it is surely reasonable, that the navigators, who do

so much damage to them, and receive so much benefit from them, should contribute their share; but is both unreasonable, and ineffectual, whilst those who are principally concerned offer nothing, or next to nothing, themselves.

“ The owners of the free-land may perhaps alledge, that they have done more than their share, by submitting to heavy taxes imposed on their lands, by many private acts of parliament, for assisting the adventurers, by making banks, and erecting mills, in the separate districts of this great level. To this I answer, in a few words; that these are private agreements, with which the public has no concern, and that by all these acts the adventurers are equally burthened with themselves, that these very mills have choaked up the rivers, and rendered the task of the adventurers still more impracticable, that they are clear acknowledgments of their inability, and a manifest renunciation of the original bargain.

“ Nor will parliament ever consent to mortgage the trade of eight or ten counties for one or two hundred thousand pounds, appropriated before-hand to a list of works, the expediency of which scarce any two able engineers have ever agreed on; and to be placed in the same hands, that have already expended double that sum in vain.

“ What then is to be done? Is this extensive and fertile country, its produce, commerce, and navigation to be given up as lost and irrecoverable? By no means. Would the owners of the free-lands, the adventurers, and the merchants, all equally interested in its preservation, unite in one single act of parliament, containing the three following clauses, the whole might be retrieved.

“ Be

“ Be it enacted first, that in consideration that the original agreement between the owners of the free-lands, and the adventurers, was even at first unfair, and now impracticable, the said agreement be declared to be henceforth null and void. Secondly, that a new corporation be constituted, consisting of the proprietors of the free and adventure-lands indiscriminately, vested with all the powers and privileges enjoyed by the present body, particularly that of taxing all these lands to any extent, which they shall judge necessary for preserving the country and navigation; these taxes to be imposed equally on all these lands in proportion to their real value, by some mode to be fixed upon by mutual agreement of all parties concerned. Thirdly, that a toll be laid on the navigation not exceeding one shilling per ton, and that a certain number of traders be admitted into this corporation in proportion to the revenue which shall accrue from this toll.”

“ By these regulations, a certain annual income would arise of above thirty thousand pounds; as thus,

	£.	s.	d.
By a tax and half on the 95,000 acres	7577	0	0
By a tax in proportion on the 200,000, at 1s. 6d	15,000	0	0
By a toll of 1s. per ton on the navigation	10,000	0	0
	<hr/> 32,577 0 0 <hr/>		

“ This income, without any power to anticipate it by mortgaging, is more than can be expended in these works in a year, and fully sufficient, if well employed, to restore this country to a flourishing state, and to preserve it in such to all future ages.

Bu

But if the owners of the two hundred thousand acres shall be absurd enough to reject this proposal, and still wait for salvation from the adventurers, who cannot, and the navigators, who will not drain them, they must suffer that just punishment of the Dutch; that is, if they refuse to work, *they must be drowned.*

“ The merchants from it would receive equal advantage, because when the rivers are deepened, and the banks made good, their commodities would be carried at less expence than at present, notwithstanding the toll, and the navigation will be preserved, which without it will be entirely lost.”

In consequence of this eminent gentleman's opinion being made publick, a meeting was held at Ely in November, but nothing conclusive proposed or agreed to.

Captain Page, and Mr. James Creassy, at the request of lord viscount Townshend, took a view of the fens, works, and outfall, in the summer of 1777.

The noble lord, in an address “ To the gentlemen of landed and commercial interest in the fens,” annexed to the opinions of Capt. Page and Mr. Creassy, “ thought it right to submit these sheets to your consideration, for the following reasons:

“ First, because you who are now called upon for so large a sum, and who, from the injudicious application of your former heavy taxes, have derived so little benefit.

“ Another motive which induces me to communicate these observations to you is, because the gentleman who wrote the first is not only allowed to be a
man

man of science, and whose abilities have been proved by his success in the most difficult undertakings of this nature; but his impartiality may be relied on, as he neither is, nor would be, a sharer in the execution of what he recommends. The other little treatise is the work of a person who has been employed with success in the fens; and, being on the point of embarking for the East-Indies, can have no other view than assisting the public on this occasion with his best opinion.

“The systems of these gentlemen do not entirely coincide: None of you are rivetted to any proposition; you will consider them both; each may contain much useful matter, and you will adopt what is best.”

Speaking of the works proposed by the bill, “I will presume that the united and reciprocal interests of the landholder and the merchant will oppose such a project with equal firmness and candour.”

Of the levels and sections of the Ouse, “I mean neither to charge Mr. Elstobb with any neglect, or the members of the corporation with any sinister views; yet, surely, the history of fen-government, for many years past in the hands of delegates, undertakers, and a species of men stiled engineers, and the example of so many families impoverished by their blunders and jobs, are sufficient to authorise us to be extremely circumspect upon new propositions and extensive powers; without entertaining the least suspicion injurious to the gentlemen of influence in the corporation.”

To a list of “ill-placed, ill-proportioned, stupendous, tottering constructions,” his lordship adds,

“ and above all that long-noted nuisance, the Denver Sluice, (that *ÆRA OF THE FENS*) which like an ill-shapen gigantic bully, posted in the avenue of a public place, insults the public merely because no one has courage to remove him.

“ The drainage cannot be abandoned, and the river lost, without such obstacles and expence falling on the trade, that in such case the trade of Lynn would hardly wish to trample under foot the feeble fence of the poor occupier of land, which protects his precarious crop and starving family against a sudden inundation, without paying a fair proportion for the advantages the trade would receive.”

“ It is certain (says lord Townshend) the country is in a most deplorable state; the causes are obvious. There can be little doubt but you have about thirty feet fall from the junction of the Grant and the Ouse to Lynn; possibly the remedy may be as clear and the means as certain.”

Extracts from “ Observations by Capt. Page.”

Of the Thames, “ Nothing further being required, as nature has been only assisted; whereas, in the fens, nothing has been done that does not tend to obstruct her in the most complete manner.

“ Westerdyke, a Dutchman of experience, gave his opinion, “ That the unrestrained overflowings of the rivers was the principal cause of the surrounding this level; AND THIS BEING APPARENTLY THE DISEASE, therefore the confining of these rivers within sufficient banks must consequently in reason be the cure.”

“ Lord

“ Lord Gorges, then surveyor-general of the fens, observed, that “ The better way of draining the south level (for whose benefit alone sluices were intended) is by banks, without any sluices at all at Denver; according to the certain rules of draining, which is to imbank all rivers and brook-waters, and never to put sluices upon such waters as have a continual body to preserve their channels or outfalls from filling up by tides.”

“ We find the reverse of these rules followed in most of the fen-works to the present time, which conform exactly to the project of sir C. Vermuyden.

“ Since that period, (Denver sluice, 1651) the whole south level has been in a state of decay, and inevitably must be lost, if some proper project for a general drainage should not be adopted. The foundation of it (Denver sluice) is likewise a manifest obstruction, it being many feet above the hanging level of the river.

“ The Tong's Drain and Popham's Eau are equally to be objected to, as indeed are all divisions of great rivers;” and a French author concludes his philosophical disquisition on the course of the Rhine, with respect to its dangerous divisions, “ It has been “ explained, that the bottoms of the three branches “ silt up from the want of sufficient velocity in the “ stream, which suffers an accumulation of sand and “ soil carried down by the sudden thaws of snow, “ and by heavy rains.

“ By re-uniting these three branches into one “ stream, the water would acquire a velocity three “ times greater than it has in three divisions.

“ By

“ By these means also, the effect of scouring out the bottom would be tripled. This is a simple, true, and efficacious remedy; and will not only prevent obstructions in the bed of the river, but by degrees remove them.”

“ It may be here observed, that whilst it (Denver sluice) remains as it is, the south level cannot be benefited by any works the corporation may undertake: so as to be what it originally was, no great benefit is to be expected.

“ Could the obstructions be removed, the water in the river might be lower'd, as the channel, by being deep, would admit of it without injury to the navigation, which otherwise it would put a total stop to. This is clear from the state of the river in July, as at that time there was not water enough a few hundred yards above the Denver sluice to float the barges; notwithstanding which, the middle fen was then totally drowned. There is the greatest reason to expect (nay, it seems to be certain) that the embankment of the rivers would alone answer every desirable end,

“ The river from Lynn to Littleport is pretty well embanked (excepting the improper width at Germans); but higher up, towards Ely, it is totally neglected; there every kind of obstruction to the running of the water is suffered to remain, and the breadth in many places is twenty times, at least, greater than it ought to be. From Ely to the Hermitage, near Erith, it is in as bad a state; and is equally so opposite Soham Mere; it is the same a considerable way up the Grant.

“ It

“It has always been agreed, that the outfall of the river Ouse should be first considered, as from its present bad state, any works higher up in the country would be useless.”

Of Kinderly's cut, “It is not easy for any one to assert positively that this work will answer; the corporation are led to hope that it will, because a similar thing has been done at Wisbech, and found beneficial to the drainage of that country. We may infer from it, that, provided the cut at Lynn can be made to bear the same proportion to the Ouse, as the other does to the Wisbech river, that it MAY IN SUCH CASE answer as well. The new cut at Wisbech is pretty near the same dimensions that is the channel of the old river; it therefore was only giving the water a new direction, equal to what had been quitted, and of course it was reasonable that it should answer.

“Whereas the width of the present outfall at Lynn, at the narrowest place, being near three hundred yards, we ought, agreeable to what nature will require, to give at least the same width to the lower end of the proposed cut; and the upper part of it should be equal to the old channel at Germaine's bridge: then it may be safe to make it, but not otherwise.

“It will be of very little use, if, at the same time, they do not execute works that may restore proper levels to the other parts, quite to the Highlands beyond Ely; as they cannot take the water from the rivers, and leave them navigable, without at the same time making them deeper; and that cannot be done by what is proposed in the intended act.

“After

“ After the provision for the outfall, it is proposed by the act, that St. John's Eau is to be opened; also a parallel drain to be made for the waste way by the old Bedford river, and a cut by Mr. Savory's land into Well-creek; which are works of little consequence, in the idea of a plan of a GENERAL DRAINAGE.

“ The bad construction of Denver sluice should have been attended to in this act; the most inexperienced engineer in the king's service would be able to give the corporation a plan of a proper sluice (if they must have one there) that would answer every purpose intended by the present, and be without any of its objections.

“ Could the proprietors of the fens once divest themselves of their local ideas and interests upon draining, and concur in a *general plan* formed on the same principles laid down in the embankment of that river, (Thames) they would soon find the inutility of either sluices, flakers, or windmills, towards the drainage of their country.”

Extracts from “ The Report and Opinion of Mr. James Creasby.”

“ I am of opinion, that the attempting to run the waters off the low lands in the same canal or river with those that flow from the high country in time of floods, is inconsistent with, and contrary both to reason and experience.

“ The water in the river Ouse, and several other rivers, were considerably higher than the surface of many thousand acres of low lands at the time I viewed
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ed the levels, which was in the middle of July, particularly near the high country; and therefore those lands that lie remote from the outfall, become almost perpetually drowned.

“ It must appear demonstrative, that two or more rivers may be made parallel to each other, and yet have different falls in a given distance: and still these rivers may be united, and the waters run together at a given point.

“ It is evident, that the waters coming from the high country (which I conceive to be nineteen parts out of twenty of all the waters that drown the low lands in question) may, if they are confined in their courses by strong banks, be higher by several feet than the low lands adjoining, and yet those lands may be well drained, by having drains cut parallel to the said rivers, and carrying the low-land waters down to a lower part of the outfall, without letting them communicate at all with those coming from the high lands, till the inclined plain formed by the running of the high-land waters is lower than the low lands to be drained.

“ The plan that I would recommend for the more effectual draining of the abovementioned part of the country, is, first, to build two sluices a little above Lynn, one on each side the river Ouse; to be each sixty feet clear water-way, and the floors thereof to be five feet below low-water mark at Lynn, with pointing doors to stem the tides, and to be erected at such points of the river, as that both ebb and flood may pass close by their mouths, in order to scour away the silt, &c. and keep the passage clean,

“ I re-

“ I recommend a drain to be cut from the sluice of the west side parallel to the river Ouse, up to Salter's Lode, eighty feet at the top, and to slope a foot and a half on each side for every foot in depth, and to be made as deep at the lower end as the floor of the sluice, and to lay half the earth arising therefrom on the bank of the Ouse, and the remainder on the opposite side the drain in bank fashion, and to cut a drain from the sluice on the east side, in as straight a direction as the nature of the country will admit of, to the lower end of St. John's Eau, and to scour out the said St. John's Eau, and cut from the upper end of the same to Stoke river, parallel to the Ouse, of the dimensions and in the same manner as the drain recommended on the west side.

“ I also recommend a drain to be cut parallel to the river Ouse, on the east side, from the said Stoke river to the Grant or Cambridge river, and from thence up the side of the said river to the high-lands, forty feet wide at top, and to slope a foot and an half on each side for every foot in depth, and to be seven feet deep at the upper end, and the bottom to form a regular declivity from thence to the sea sluice, recommended to be built near Lynn; all the earth arising from the said drain, to be applied in heightening and strengthening the bank of the Ouse and Grant,” &c.

“ I recommend a funken tunnel to be laid under the river Ouse, immediately above Denver sluice, so that all the fogage and downfall waters of the fens lying between the Hundred-Foot river and the Ouse may pass freely down the side drain to Lynn, without communicating with the high-land waters.

“ The

“ The next thing I recommend is, to collect all the high-land waters that can possibly be collected, by cutting catch-water drains along the skirt of the high lands, but high enough up to discharge part of the waters into one imbanked river, and part into another, so that no high-land waters be suffered to flow into the fens and low grounds to be drained.”

There are many other works which Mr. Creasby recommends, the whole expence of which must exceed any that has hitherto been *recommended*. He concludes, “ These are the great works which I conceive necessary towards compleating a general drainage of this extensive and fruitful country. There are several other works of an inferior kind needful; but I look upon those as secondary, and of a local and private nature.

“ I am persuaded the works here recommended will be executed at less expence than those of scouring and widening, deepening and embanking, the several rivers that bring down the flood waters.

“ The next thing is, the country will be rendered dry as the works advance upwards, and as such will become cultivated and improved, and the inhabitants will be satisfied of the utility of the undertaking, and prosecute it with more vigour.

“ Another thing is, the navigation and trade of Lynn, &c. will be prodigiously increased by having so many more thousand acres of land cultivated and inhabited, that now is, comparatively speaking, a lost and undone country.

“ I therefore would humbly advise the noblemen and gentlemen interested in draining the middle and south

fourth levels of the fens, to take *experience* for their future guide, and no longer depend upon the fallacious and ill-grounded reports of self-interested and designing men, whose business has ever been to multiply the difficulties of a GENERAL DRAINAGE."

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Stona, in an address "To the Gentlemen of the Corporation of Bedford Level," dated April 8, 1776, endeavours, by a comparative view of the reports and opinions of able engineers, to prove that the cut proposed by Mr. Nath. Kinderley, in 1751, would not answer the design "for making and maintaining a sufficient outfall to sea near Lynn-Regis."

Mr. Kinderley, in his own words, "Not only to confine the river by jetties against the town, but to confine it upwards likewise, by casting up a new river or channel for it two hundred feet wide, (which is as wide as it is at Germains) and to be as deep as it is at Lynn: and that in a straight line from half a mile below Germains, viz. at a place called Eau Brink, to half a mile above Lynn, which would be a course of but two miles in length, and so to desert the present broad, unconfined, shallow, and crooked course (which the river now takes) of between six and seven miles in length, and near one in breadth, always shifting amongst the broad sands, for which reason it can get no depth, and by this means four miles of its present crooked course would be cut off."†

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† Mr. Kinderley had another proposal for draining the fens and preserving the navigation of Lynn, Wisbech, Spalding, &c. "by bringing the Wisbech river in a new cut near St. Andrew's Walpole, through Marshland, to the Lynn river, and by

The effects that this plan would have upon navigation and drainage are these, (as the author expected)

“ The channel would be shorter, deeper, and safer; the indraught of the tide would be quickened, and the ebb returning in the flood channel with greater velocity, would prevent any lodgment of the soil. The fall of the fen water would be seven feet more than at present, and the passage of the waters to sea be quicker. The expence of engines would be prevented. The waters thus drawn off under the surface, they might have earth near to make good their banks, and the Hundred-Foot water would be prevented from returning at Denver.”

Upon the inefficacy of this scheme Mr. Stona adduces many convincing reasons.—Tides, at the equinoxes and by certain winds, which rise twenty-six feet and upwards at common staith, must pass through this channel.—By deserting the present course of the river from Eau-brink to the World's-end, Barn's gool, Knight's gool, Tilney gool, and Clenchwarton gool must be stopped.

The same author (on the principles of navigation and drainage) remarks on the effects produced by the several works of the Bedford Level Corporation—Of Denver sluice—Of ancient and modern drainage—Of the equity of paying tonage in lieu of the injury done to the banks. “ Engineers, says he,
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by carrying those rivers in a cut from the Crutch through Wootton and Wolferton marshes into the deeps of Lynn channel, over-against Snettisham, and by a dam to be made cross the river's mouth, from the Crutch to the west point.” The money to be raised by a fen lottery.

indeed may have uncommon sense, and much respect is due to it; but able engineers, like able physicians, will assist nature, but not obstruct her.

“If they offend this rule, we have a right to suspect them of quackery; who endeavour to make you worse, that they may take the more fees.”

In 1775 and 76, Mr. William Elstobb was employed by the commissioners to take the levels of the Ouse from Clay-hill, above Ely, to the bar-beacon in Lynn channel.

	Distance.		Fall.
	M.	F.	F. I.
Denver sluice to German's bridge	9	3	5 6
German's bridge to Lynn	6	7	7 9
Lynn to the bar-beacon	5	3	8 0

The whole distance from Denver sluice to the bar-beacon being twenty-one miles five furlongs, and the fall twenty-one feet three inches, the proportional average is nearly twelve inches in each mile: “But, says Mr. John Golborne, in his report published Dec. 12, 1777, finding that no confidence could be placed in these levels, I applied to Mr. Whitworth, who levelled from the crutch-beacon to Denver sluice, from whence there was a fall of six feet seven inches, viz. One foot fall from Denver sluice to Eau-brink, near eleven miles; and from thence to above Lynn, nearly in the line as formerly proposed by Mr. Kinderly, four feet nine inches in spring tides; which in the course of this river is six miles, but in a strait line over the land, two miles and three quarters, and from thence to the crutch-beacon (being three miles) ten inches fall.

“ In order therefore to give the utmost relief to these levels, it will be necessary to cut a new channel through the marshes, two miles and three quarters long, from Eau-brink to half a mile above Lynn, to form a bank on each side of it with proper forelands, and to turn the river down this channel by a dam made over the old one; and there being a fall of four feet nine inches in that distance, the current will run with great velocity, and soon grind down a deep channel; and the river upwards being already very deep, the surface of low water will be lowered at least four feet at Salter's lode sluice, at Old Bedford sluice, at Denver sluice, and at the mouth of the New Bedford river. This cannot fail to give immediate relief to both these levels, and these four feet will be instantly felt in middle fen, in Ramsey, and in Whittlesey.”

By Mr. Elstobb's line of levels, we find a fall of five feet six inches, in nine miles three furlongs: Mr. Golborne, on the same line, and one mile five furlongs below, makes the fall only *one* foot in eleven miles. Mr. Elstobb asserts, that Mr. Golborne has the low-water mark at Denver sluice three feet *higher* than the wharf at Peterborough bridge; Mr. Golborne, on the contrary, affirms it to be six feet ten inches *lower*. Were the observations of these gentlemen within a trifling difference of each other, a medium might be drawn to satisfaction, but in so *wide* a matter, no conclusion can be made. Ignorance, or deceit, may be demonstrated to a mathematical certainty in almost every business of the corporation, where engineers have been employed. Truth obliges us to make this remark.

Mr. Elstobb has published an elaborate defence of his section of the Ouse, &c. Amongst a variety of

pro's and con's, *he* proves the fall from Peterborough to Denver sluice to be at least eight feet.

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Stona also published "Remarks upon the Report of Mr. John Golborne, Engineer;" in which, amongst many ingenious and incontrovertible remarks, he says:

"The instance you produce to show that no confidence can be placed in Mr. Elstobb's level of the Ouse, apparently militates against this very level taken by Mr. Whitworth,"

An estimate of the charge of cutting a new channel from near Eau Brink, to the south end of Lynn, seven hundred and twenty-six rods in length, two hundred feet wide at the top, ten feet deep, with a foreland on each side of the channel one hundred and twenty feet in breadth with banks, one hundred feet in the seat, forty feet at the top, and ten feet high.

	£.	s.	d.
To spade and barrow work at the cut	16335	0	0
To a dam cross the river near Eau Brink	1500	0	0
To horse-milling and leeking the work	700	0	0
To purchase of land for the cut	3300	0	0
To ditto for the cover	3300	0	0
To flagging the banks	726	0	0
To superintending the work	300	0	0
	<hr/>		
	26126	0	0

Per contra

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To the present course of the river, which is to silt up and become good land (as by Mr. Golborne's report) consisting of two thousand acres, or nearly, at 17s. per acre (the common price of good marsh land) at 20 years purchase, is 34000 0 0

To the Board of Adventurers (if they should be inclined to pursue this plan) the merchant and land-owner will say, "Gentlemen, why will you pursue a plan thus (apparently) pregnant with dangers that human experience cannot foresee, and which human art, perhaps, may not be able to resist, when a removal of the obstructions in the present channel will answer the end of drainage."

An Abstract of such Statutes as have been made for avoiding all annoyances and obstructions in navigable Rivers.

June 19, 1215. Magna Charta, cap. 23, provides, That all weirs from thenceforth shall be utterly put down thro' all England, but only by the sea coasts.

1352. 25 Ed. 3. cap. 4. sets forth, That whereas the common passages of boats and ships in the great rivers of England be oftentimes annoyed by inhanfing gores, weirs, stakes, &c. in great damage of the people; it is established, the same shall be cut and utterly pulled down, without being renewed. And that writs be sent to the sheriffs to do execution.

1372. 45 Ed. 3. cap. 2. Reciting the statute last-mentioned; and that ships and boats were disturbed, that they could not pass as they were wont. And at the grievous complaint of the Commons, by their petition, that the same statute was not executed nor kept. It is established, that the same statute shall be kept. Joining thereto—That if any such annoyance be done, it shall be pulled down, &c. And he that shall repair the same, incur one hundred marks penalty.

1398. 21 Rich. 2. cap. 19. The same statutes last above-mentioned, are recited, and again confirmed.

1399. 1 Hen. 4. cap. 12. The same statutes are again recited and confirmed in all points; joining thereto

thereto) That commissioners shall be made to substitute persons to survey and keep the great rivers, and correct and pull down, and amend the defaults, and to hear and determine, and make decrees touching the same.

1403. 4 Hen. 4. cap. 11. Reciting the sad mischiefs whereby the common passage of ships and boats is disturbed; It is enacted, That the former statutes be holden and kept, and put in due execution. Joining to the same, That the commissioners shall enquire thereof, and punish offenders by fines, at their discretions.

1473. 12 Ed. 4. cap. 7. sets forth, That the former statutes were made for the great wealth of the land, in avoiding the straightness of all rivers, so that ships and boats might have in them their large and free passage. That such annoyances in rivers are contrary to Magna Charta, upon which the great sentence and apostolic curse was pronounced against the breakers of the same. And reciting the whole tenors of all the said former statutes. And that contrary to these statutes, in disturbance of the passage of ships, barges, boats, and other vessels, divers locks, weirs, flakes, flood-gates, and disturbances were daily enlarged, to the great damage of the king and his people. It is ordained, That all the said former statutes shall be duly observed and kept, joining thereto other great penalties to the king and informer.

1532. 23 Hen. 8. cap. 5. Repeating the damages and losses by gates, flood-gates, locks, and other impediments and annoyances on rivers, streams, and floods, whereby the passage of boats and ships be letted and interrupted. Directs the form of the general commission of sewers, whereby the commissioners have power to cause such annoyances and impediments

ments to be corrected, put down or reformed, according to the afore-mentioned statutes. And to prostrate and overthrow the same, with large powers to make laws and ordinances, and compel obedience thereunto: Reviving and confirming all the said former statutes in all points.

1550. 3 Edw. 6. cap. 8. The last-mentioned and former statutes confirmed and made perpetual.

1601. 43 Eliz. cap. 11. An act passed for draining great part of this level, wherein provision was made that it should not extend to the draining any lands, whereby, or by means whereof, any of the havens or ports of this realm may in any sort be annoyed, impaired or hindered, nor any grounds in six miles of Lynn.

Upon the whole, we (the Editors of the History of Norfolk) have discharged the duty we owe the public on this subject with that candour and impartial retrospect, a matter of so much importance and intricacy requires. We have already observed, that the opinions of those who have wrote, are as *opposite* in the more essential points in question, as if *purposely* meant to contradict each other, and confound the Commissioners. If a "scale of talents" could be formed, and the integrity of the parties ascertained, some harmony might be produced; but whilst the country continues to be kept under an inundation of *pro* and *con*, no measure, either for the preservation or improvement of the landed and commercial interests, can be adapted.

* * A correct map of the Great Bedford Level is subjoined to these enquiries.

Having

96* HUNDRED AND HALF

Having finished our general description of Freebridge Lynn and Marshland, and of the works on the Bedford Levels, we now proceed to the several parishes in this hundred and half, which will be found arranged in alphabetical order, as follows:

FREEBRIDGE LYNN.

Anmer	Maffingham, Great
Appleton	Maffingham, Little
Ashwickon	Middleton
Babingley	Mintling
Bawley	Newton, West
Bilney, West	Pentney
Castle-acre	Roydon
Castle-Rising	Rundon, North
Congham	Sandringham
Derfingham	Setchy
Flitcham	South Lynn
Gayton	Walton, East
Gayton Thorpe	West-acre
Gaywood	Winch, East
Grimston	Winch, West
Harpley	Wolferton
Hillington	Wooton, North
Lynn-Regis	Wooton, South

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND.

Clenchwarton	Walpole St. Andrew
Emneth	Walpole St. Peter
Illington	Walfoken
Lynn, West	Walton, West
Terrington St. Clement	Wiggenhall St. Germain
Terrington St. John	Wiggenhall St. Mary
Tilney All Saints	Wiggenhall St. M. Mag-
Tilney St. Laurence	dalen

ANMER, is situated about two miles west of Houghton hall and plantations, four miles south-east from Snettisham, and eleven miles north-east from Lynn.

This village has been greatly improved, and ornamented with different plantations, by James Coldham, esq. the present lord of the manor, whose seat is in this town, and who generally resides here, a circumstance of great advantage to the country round him, being an active and judicious magistrate, and ever ready to execute the duties of that office, which if properly attended to, entitles a country gentleman to the honour, the applause, the thanks of the public. An active, intelligent justice of the peace is one of the most useful members of society, who gives up his time to the benefit of his country, and has no reward but that of conscious virtue, and a secret satisfaction of doing good; a reward indeed greatly above all pecuniary compensations, though not sought after in this degenerate age with the same avidity. This attention as a magistrate is among the many virtues of Mr. Coldham, which has acquired him that much respected character he has so long born in this county.

There are two manors in this town, Anmere-hall manor, and Bereford manor.

ANMERE HALL. This manor in the reign of Edward I. came into the family of the Calthorpes. Sir Walter de Calthorpe was lord in 1284, and in 1303 sir William de Calthorpe, knight, presented as lord and patron to the church of Anmer; and in the 5th of Edward III. a fine was levied, whereby it was settled by sir William de Calthorpe of Burnham, on himself for life, remainder to sir Walter

his son, and Alice his wife in tail, after to Oliver and his other sons; and sir Walter dying *sans* issue, it descended to sir Oliver Calthorpe, brother of sir Walter, who presented to the church in 1374: this sir Oliver built on the south side of this church, a chapel, wherein he founded a chauntry, endowing it with forty-eight acres of land in the town of Anmer, appointing one of the canons of the priory of Flitcham to officiate therein, and to pray for the souls of his ancestors and his own; and the prior of Flitcham had a patent for it in the 45th of Edward III.

In 1420 the king presented to this church, on account of the minority of John, son of sir William Calthorpe; in 1432 William Calthorpe, esq. and in 1552 Elizabeth Parker, widow, which Elizabeth was daughter and heir of sir Philip Calthorpe, and married sir Henry Parker, knight of the bath, of Erwarton in Suffolk, who being afterwards married to William Wodehouse, esq. they presented to this rectory in 1534, and 1560; and on his death to Drue Drury, esq. and they presented in 1567. In the 23d of Elizabeth sir Philip Parker had livery of it.

After this, Thomas Norris was lord, and presented in 1624, and Cuthbert Norris, esq. in 1678, who conveyed it to the Coldhams; James Coldham, esq. was lord in 1705, and in this family it remains, James Coldham, esq. being the present lord.

At the embodying of the militia in the late war, and their being called out into different counties, Mr. Coldham served as captain in the western battalion of the militia for the county of Norfolk, which regiment had the honour of being first ordered out,
upon

upon their own petition, and marched down to Hilsa barracks near Portsmouth. As the regiment passed through Hyde Park, it was reviewed by the late king and his present majesty, who were pleased to express their approbation of the warlike appearance of the officers and men, and of their spirit in desiring to be employed against the common enemy, then threatening an invasion upon this kingdom, having fitted out a great naval force under the command of M. de Conflans at Brest, and lined their coasts near Quiberon Bay with thirty thousand troops, under the command of the duke d'Aguillon, ready for embarkation. These great preparations were soon after happily counteracted, under the blessing of providence, by the bravery of sir Edward Hawke, and many of the capital ships of France taken, sunk, and destroyed, in Quiberon Bay near Belleisle, in November 1759. The militia of Norfolk, and of most of the counties in England, still continued embodied and encamped during the remainder of that glorious war, when English colours were seen flying, triumphantly flying in every quarter of the known world.

BEREFORD MANOR. This manor in the reign of Edward I. was in John de Bereford and sir Walter de Calthorpe.

Afterwards, in 1496, Henry L'Estrange of Hunstanton, died seized of it, as appears by his will; and in the 30th of Henry VIII. by a fine between sir Thomas L'Estrange, knt. John Wodehouse, of Horsford, gent. and Cicilia his wife, Francis Beddingfield, and Elena his wife, it was conveyed to sir Thomas, with ten messuages, and lands in Anmer, Derlingham, &c. and in the following year sir Thomas, and his lady Ann, conveyed it to Tho-

mas Houghton, clerk, and Thomas Houghton died lord in the 35th of that king; and Robert Houghton was then found to be his brother and heir; and George Houghton in 1570 was lord: after this, it came to the Norris's, and was joined to their other lordship, and so to the Coldhams, in which family it remains at present.

The church of Anmer is dedicated to St. Mary. The Rev. Charles Buckle is the present rector.

APPLETON. Probably so, called from Aba, who held this manor under Stigand archbishop of Canterbury, and ton or tun, a town.

After different proprietors, the tradition of which is uncertain, it descended in 1571 to the Pastons.

In 1571 Clement Paston enjoyed it, the famous sea captain who built Oxnead-hall, lately the seat of the earl of Yarmouth; he was fourth son of sir William Paston, of Paston in Norfolk, by Bridget his wife, daughter of sir Henry Heydon: Clement left it by will to sir Edward Paston, and died in 1597; sir Edward was his nephew, son of sir Thomas Paston, (fifth son of sir William Paston afore-said) and his lady Agnes, daughter and heir of sir John Leigh, of Addington in Surry, knight. This sir Edward built Appleton-hall, and married Margaret, daughter of Henry Berney, esq. of Reedham in Norfolk, by whom he had Thomas, his eldest son, from whom the Pastons of Barningham in Norfolk are descended. William, his second son, had this manor, and married Agnes, daughter and co-heir of William Everard, of Lyngstead in Suffolk, esq. by whom he had William his son, lord of Appleton in 1664, who by Mary his wife, daughter of
James

James Lawson, of Brough in Yorkshire, had William Paston, of Appleton, esq. In this family it remains at present, and Wm. Paston, esq. of Houghton in the county of Wilts, is the present lord.

The seat of this family was burnt to the ground in 1707, and the family was in great danger of being burnt in their beds, if a shepherd had not wakened them: on this they removed to Houghton in Wiltshire, and in 1720 John Paston, esq. resided there, and was lord also of that place. The hall seems to have been built in 1596, that date being on the gatehouse, or lodge leading to it.

Another lordship in this village of Appleton, in process of time and after many unknown proprietors, descended and was held by the Cobbes of Sandringham; from the Cobbes it came to James Hoste, esq. and so to Henry Cornish Henley, esq. by marriage with Susan, daughter and sole heiress of the said James Hoste. On the decease of Henry Cornish Henley it reverted back to his widow, the present Mrs. Henley of Sandringham.

This town now consisting of a few houses only, is in some measure by custom united with the parish of Flitcham, to which it adjoins; all assessments and parish rates and duties running in the name of Flitcham cum Appleton. The church is in ruins.

At the east end lies a gravestone, *In memory of Frances, widow of Edward Paston, of B——, Esq; who died Feb. 15, 1665, daughter to Sir John Sydenham, of Brympton in Somersetshire. On another, Agnes Paston, Gulielmi Everard, de Linstead, filia, vidua Gulielmi Paston, armig. mundanis vere vidua, in charitate clara. obt. xi. die Apr. A. D. 1676, ætat suæ 73.*

On a third, *Hic requiescit corpus Tho. Paston, militis, obt. apud Congham.*

WYKEN, alias ASHWYKEN, LESIATE, and HOLT. In Wyken were two lordships granted by the Conqueror to two different families.

These two lordships also extended into two little adjoining towns, Lesiate and Holt; Lesiate is still a distant separate parish, and has a church belonging to it, but Holt, or Holthouse, has none, and is now esteemed as part of the parish of Lesiate.

In the 6th year of Henry III. Hugh de Noium or Nugun, was lord of Wyke, Lesiate and Holt; and conveyed part of the said townships, by fine, to Odo, abbot of Caen in Normandy, lord of the manor of Wells, or Wells priory in Geyton, reserving to himself, and his men of Wyke, common of pasture in the town of Holt.

The priory of Wells, in Geyton, appears also to have a lordship here. This was afterwards granted, on the dissolution of the priories *alien*, together with that priory, to John Wodehouse, esq. who had the rent of assize in Lesiate and Holt, as lord, in the 9th year of king Henry VI.

After this John Jenkin, Gent. conveyed, by fine, in the 28th of Henry VIII. the third part of the manor of Glosthorpe, with lands in Wyken, Lesiate, Holt, Geyton, &c. to Thomas Thoresby, esq. and the said Thoresby died seised of the manor of Ashwyken, with its appurtenances, in the 36th of Henry VIII. The Thoresby's seem to have lived here at this time. Edmund Thoresby, esq. son of Thomas, by his last will, dated Dec. 20, 1547, desires to be
buried

buried in the church of Ashwyken, appoints Ursula his wife executrix, and mentions his brother Francis Thoresby, esq. proved January 9 following.

In the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, Thomas Thoresby, esq. had livery of the manors of Ashwyken, Bawsey, Glossthorpe, &c. being son and heir of Edmund. In this family it remained till about the year 1600, when Francis Thoresby, esq. of Gaywood, sold it to John Drury, esq. who in 1675 presented to the rectory as lord.

The said John Drury, esq. (a branch of the Drurys of Rougham in Suffolk) married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and coheirs of George Fowler, esq. of Weeting, and was lord of Holt: from the Drurys it was conveyed to the hon. Roger North, esq. of Rougham in Norfolk, about the year 1700.

In 1754, George Wright, esq. died seised of the manors of Ashwyken, Lefiate, Glossthorpe and Holt, with the advowson of Ashwyken and Lefiate; and were advertised to be sold by a decree of chancery on Jan. 29, 1754. He was son of — Wright, esq. of Sandy Downham in Suffolk, and married a daughter of Roger North, esq.

These manors were purchased by the late John Spencer, esq. brother to the late and uncle to the present duke of Marlborough, but have within these few years been sold by his son, the present earl Spencer, to James Crowe, esq. of the city of Norwich, who is the present lord,

Ashwyken lies upon the right of the turnpike-road running from Lynn, at the distance of five miles from that port. Formerly the road to Lynn from
F 4
Norwich,

Norwich, near this place, was extremely dangerous, and that part particularly which passed near Bawfey, called Bawfey Bottom, was remarkable for being, perhaps, the worst piece of road in England, and was much dreaded by all travellers in carriages from Norwich to Lynn.

The church of Ashwyken is dedicated to All Saints, and was appropriated to Westacre priory.

The church of Lefiate was dedicated to All Saints, and appropriated to the priory of Westacre. Service is performed in this church every third Sunday, and two Sundays at Ashwyken.

BABINGLEY. Sir Henry Spelman observes, that the town is seated in an angle, or nook of land between two rivers, (called by him the Isis and the Cong) and the town seems to take its name from Bab, or Be, a fine winding river; thus Bavenburc, now called Bauburgh, in Norfolk, Babworth in Nottinghamshire, Babington in Somersetshire, &c. and Ing and Ley, as lying in the meadows.

BUTLER'S MANOR, OR WEST-HALL. In the reign of Henry I. sir William de Rudham held it; from him it came to John de Boteler, whose name it still retains.

In 1369, sir Adam de Clifton was lord, and presented as heir to Caily, and so to Tatefhalc; and in the 45th of king Edward III. Joan, late the widow of John Boteler, was found to hold the manor of Botelers in Babingley, of the manor of West-hall in the said town, and that John was her son and heir, and of age, as appears from an inquisition taken at Babingley on Wednesday after the feast of St. Simon
and

and Jude, and that she died on Thursday after the feast of St. Margaret, in the 43d of the said king.

This John Boteler, son of John Boteler and Joan his wife, was the last heir male of his family, and was afterwards a knight, and his daughter and heir Margaret, being married to Jeffery Cobbe, of Sandringham, their estate here came into that family, wherein it continued till sold about 1686 to sir Edward Atkins, who conveyed it soon after to James Hoste, esq. and from the Hostes it came to Henry Cornish Henley, esq. of Sandringham.

WEST-HALL, or TATISHALE'S MANOR. This manor, the descent of which is very uncertain, either by inheritance or purchase, came at last to the family of the Cobbes, in which family it remained till sold about the year 1686, and afterwards passed to the Hostes, and so to Henry Cornish Henley, esq. in right of his wife, Susan, daughter and sole heiress of the late James Hoste, esq. of Sandringham, and upon his decease reverted to his relict, the present Mrs. Henley of Sandringham.

This church of Babingley is supposed to be the first church that was built in this county. The river, or more properly the channel, parts it from Castle-Rising, which was formerly a sea-port town: though the sea has left it, the tide still flows up the river. The woods of Babingley and Woolferton, adjoining to it, are very valuable, and abound in game.

The present rector of this parish is the Rev. James Sharp, presented in the year 1732 by the late James Hoste, esq. of Sandringham.

Of late years a turnpike-road has been made from Lynn; through Gaywood and Castle-Rising, to the end of Babingley lane, a distance of about six miles, the road before being almost impassable from the depth of mud in the winter time.

BAWSEY and GLOSTHORPE, were two distinct villages at the survey, called Glocesthorpe and Boufeda, or Boweseia; the first was the capital manor, and the other, Bawsey, a beruite to it, both held by Robert Malet, a Norman baron, lord of Eye in Suffolk.

Glocesthorpe may take its name from the Britons, being by a Gloy-Re, that is a fair water; thus Gloucester or Gloster, from Gloy, in Welsh, fair, and Chester.,

Bawsey takes its name from its scite, on a winding stream or water.

William, lord Malet, was with the Conqueror at the decisive battle of Hastings, and sent with the body of king Harold, there slain, to see it decently interred. In the Conqueror's charter to the dean and canons of St. Martin's le Grand, London, he signed next to the earls, and had then the title of Princeps. By Hefilia his wife he had Robert, to whom the Conqueror gave the honour of Eye, in Suffolk, and about two hundred and twenty manors in that county, thirty-two in Yorkshire, three in Essex, one in Hampshire, two in Nottinghamshire, eight in Lincolnshire, and the following in Norfolk, besides Glosthorpe and Bawsey:—Kilverston, in Shropham hundred; Saxlingham and Shoutisham, in Henstead hundred: Scoteford, in Earsham hundred; Giffing, Burston, Thorpe, Roydon, Shimpling, Thelton,

Thelton, and Semere, in Difs hundred; Woodton, in Loddon hundred; Horsford, Horsham, Beeston, and Sprowston, in Taverham hundred; Baston and Dilham, in Tunstead hundred; Fretton and Hardwick, in Depwade hundred.

This Robert was great chamberlain of England, under king Henry I. but in the 2d year of that king was banished, and deprived of his possessions in England, for adhering to Robert Curtois, that king's eldest brother, duke of Normandy.

After a variety of possessors under different princes, the lordship of Bawsey was held by John Conyers, esq. (son of sir Robert Conyers, and Maud his wife, daughter of sir John Fitz-Ralph) who married Eleanor, sister and coheir of William, son of sir William Yelverton, (knight of the bath at king Edward IV's coronation, and one of the justices of the king's bench) but having no issue, it descended to Thomas Conyers, brother of John, who left two daughters and coheirs; Ann married to Thomas Spelman, esq. of Ellingham Magna; and Ela married to sir Robert Lovell, second son of sir Ralph Lovell, of Barton Bendish in Norfolk, and brother to sir Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, which Robert was knighted at Blackheath field in 1497.

About the 6th year of queen Elizabeth, Thomas Thoresby, son and heir of Edmund Thoresby, had livery of a moiety of the manor of Bawsey, and two third parts of the manor of Glosshorpe; and Francis Mountford, esq. had livery of a third part of that manor, about the 22d of the said queen, held of the honour of Eye; and Jane Thoresby presented, as lady of Bawsey, in 1681, and William Thoresby, Gent. in 1719.

The situation of this town is very indifferent, being placed in swamps, and surrounded with sands. It lies about three miles to the north-east of Lynn.

The present rector is the Rev. Samuel Beatniffe, who was presented in 1728 by Edmund Hill.

BILNEY, WEST. WEST BILNEY MANOR BELHOUSE'S: so called from Thomas de Belhouse, who was lord in the reign of Henry III.

After various descents in the family of Belhouse, under different princes, this manor was conveyed, in the reign of Edward VI. to Thomas Mildmay, esq. from him it descended to his son, sir Thomas Mildmay, who conveyed it to Francis Windham, a judge of the King's Bench, in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Windham, esq. son of sir Henry Windham, of Felbrigge, sold it to sir Edward Bullock, knight, of Essex; and afterwards it came to the family of the Freakes in Hants, who removed into Ireland.

Sir Ralph Freake was created a baronet, June 4, 1713, and his youngest son, sir John Freake, sold it about the year 1751 to Mr. Francis Dalton, of Swaffham in this county, whose only son, Francis Dalton, dying, in consequence of a violent fall from his horse, by which his thigh was broke, left this estate and manor to Mr. William Dalton, of Swaffham, the present proprietor.

MONPINZOUN'S MANOR. This manor, in the reign of Edward II. was held by the family of Monpinzoun, from which it derives its name, and in process
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of time came, like the manor of Belhouse, to the families of Mildmay, Windham, Bullock, Freake, and to Mr. William Dalton, the present proprietor.

The church is dedicated to St. Cæcilia.

This town is situated about eight miles from Lynn, in the road to Swaffham.

CASTLE-ACRE. Called in Doomsday-book, Acre, from its scite by a river or running water, was the lordship of Toche, a Saxon thave, in king Edward's time, and granted at the conquest by king William I. to William earl Warren in Normandy, and after of Surry in England, who attended him in his expedition into England, and was rewarded also with these following lordships in Norfolk: Walton, Geyton, Grimstone, Congham, Hillington, Massingham, Harpley, Ammer, in Freebridge hundred.—Stanhoe, Shernbourne, Barwick and Fring, in Docking hundred.—Heacham and Snettisham, in Smithdon hundred.—Wilton, Feltwell, Methwold, Northwold, Mundford, Colveston, Keburn, Santon, Oteringe, Weeting, and Cranwise, in Grimshoe hundred.—Thexton, Caston, Tofts, Ellingham, Scoulton and Griston, in Wayland hundred.—Marham, Fincham, Helgay, Wimboutilham, Denver, Dereham and Outwell, in Clackclofe hundred.—Stinton, Kerdistone, Hackford, Dalling, Thurning and Elsing, in Eynsford hundred.—Taverham in Taverham hundred.—Coltishall, Mortost, Wickmere, Woolterton, Farningham, Mannington, Irmingland, Corpastey, Tuttington, Brampton, Cawston, Hautboys and Crakeford, in South Erpingham hundred.—Paston, Witton, Burton, Walsingham and Riston, in Tunstead hundred.—Filby in East Flegg hundred.—Carleton in Depwade hundred.—Larling, Rockland,

land, Roudham, and Illington, in Shropham hundred.—Norton, Wike and Banham, in Guiltcross hundred.—Gressenhall, Scarning, Lexham, Wea-fenham, Kempston, Fransham, Rougham, Tittleshall, and Stanfield, in Launditch hundred.—Wymondham, Morley, Wicklewood, Deopham, Welborne, Colton, Barnham and Tochethorpe, in Forehoe hundred.—Mattishall, Burgh, Letton, Shipdam, Thuxton and Rising, in Mitford hundred.—Dudlington, Cley, Hilburgh, Bradenham, Palgrave, South-acre, Bodney, Pickenham, in South Greenhoe hundred.—Sculthorpe, Basham, Kettlestone, Waterden, Fulmerstone, Croxton, Creak, Snoring, Ryburgh, Stibbard and Burnham, in Gallow hundred.—Rudham, Bagthorpe, Syderstone, Houghton, Tatterfet, Helhoughton, Scirford, Hempton, and Barmere, in Brothercross hundred.—Wiverton and Briston, in Holt hundred.—Holkham and Egmere, in North Greenhoe hundred.—Gimingham, Knapton, Thorpe, Mundesley, Repps, North and South Gresham, Aldborough, Aylmerton, Barningham, Plumstead, Sustead, Woolterton and Trunch, in North Erpingham hundred.

EARL'S MANOR. In the year 1206, earl William, the second earl Warren, owed king John a palfrey, as a fine for not being a jusiciary of the Cinque Ports; and in the 9th of that king, he and the archbishop of Canterbury paid a fine that their knights should not go over into Poitou. In the 1st of Henry III. there being some differences between the king and him, a truce was made between them for eight days, from the feast of St. Tiberius and Valerius, before the pope's legate, and several noblemen of the king's council, at Chichester; and he was appointed, in the 4th of that king, to meet the king of Scots at Berwick, and to conduct him to York, where

where the king of England would meet him: and in his 9th year, he accounted for the profits of the county of Surry, as sheriff.

He married two wives; first, Maud, daughter of the earl of Arundel, who died without issue; secondly, Maud, sister of Anselme Mareschal, earl of Pembroke, widow of Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk, and left by her John Plantagenet, his son and successor, in 1240; in which year, Maud his mother had five knights fees and an half in Burnham, of the fee of this earl, assigned to her; eight held by Ralph de Menney, one by Geoffrey Glanville, and four by Peter de Kenet, as part of her dower; and in the said year, the king ordered the barons of the exchequer, that this earl should have the third penny of the profits of the county of Surry, which his ancestors held.

This manor was called Earl's Manor, most probably, from the earl Warren, whose family was long in possession of it.

John, earl Warren and Surry, soon after his grandfather's death, married, in the 33d of king Edw. I. Joan de Barr, daughter of Henry, earl of Barr in France, by Eleanor his wife, daughter of the afore-said king, and was deputed by the earl of Hereford Constable of England.

In the 9th year of Edward II. he gave great part of his estate, with his castle and manor here, to the said king, who in the next year regranted it to him, and had in the same year license to pursue his divorce from the above-mentioned lady his wife, before certain ecclesiastics delegated for that purpose, and sold about the same time this lordship and castle,
with

72 HUNDRED AND HALF

with that of Castle-acre Wyken, to Adomarus de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, who was found to die seised of it (by the escheator, John de Blomesfield) on June 23, in the 17th of Edward II. and David de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, and Joan his wife, (sister and coheir to the earl of Pembroke) were found to hold it in the 1st of Edward III.

Soon after the aforefaid John, earl Warren, &c. was possessed of it, and in the 9th of Edward III. granted it to that king and his heirs, who on the 7th of June, in the said year, regranted it to the earl for life; remainder to Richard earl of Arundel; and on an inquisition taken at Castle-acre, July 18, in the 21st of that king, by William de Middleton, the king's escheator, it was found that John Warren, late earl of Surry, died on the eve of St. Peter and St. Paul last past, seised of this manor and castle for life, of the king's grant; remainder to Richard earl of Arundel, and his heirs; that the herbage within the castle, and in the ditch, was worth 5s. per ann. that there were three hundred acres of arable land, valued at 75s. at 3d. per acre, eight acres of meadow at 12d. per acre, fifteen of pasture at 4d. per acre, rent of assise 13l. per ann. a market and fair 13s 4d. pleas and perquisites of court, with the lete, 60s. per ann.

Dugdale relates, that Joan, countess of Warren, wife to this earl, being to go beyond sea, in the 19th of this king, on some special employment for the king, had protection for all her lands, &c. and that soon after she died, and the earl married a second wife; but it appears that the first survived him. He was married indeed to Isabel de Houland, as is proved by an indenture made between him and the king, in his 20th year, June 2, and by his last will, wherein

wherein he gives a ring with a ruby, &c. to the said Ifabel his wife, and died June 30, 1347, in the 21st of Edward III.

Richard Fitz-Alan, son of Edmund Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, by Alice, sister and heir to John earl Warren, &c. succeeded him, was lord of this manor, and earl of Surry and Arundel, on whose death, in 1375, Richard his son and heir, by Alianore, daughter to Henry earl of Lancaster, relict of Henry lord Beaumont, inherited the said honours, to whom king Richard II. in his 11th year, and to Henry earl of Derby, Thomas earl of Warwick, Thomas earl Marshal, and Thomas duke of Gloucester, granted twenty thousand pounds out of the subsidy raised for the king, as charges and expences they had been at for the honour of the crown, and the safety of the kingdom, in acting against the duke of Ireland; but in the 21st of the said king, he was beheaded, and his estate and this manor granted to Thomas Mowbray, earl marshal and earl of Nottingham, and afterwards duke of Norfolk, who married his daughter, and is said to be so inhuman, as to bind up his eyes and become his executioner.

On the accession of king Henry IV. to the crown, Thomas, son and heir of this Richard, earl of Surry and Arundel, by Elizabeth, daughter of William Bohun, earl of Northampton, was restored in blood, made knight of the Bath, on that king's coronation, and earl of Surry and Arundel: he married Beatrix, an illegitimate daughter to the king of Portugal, but dying without issue, left three sisters and coheirs, in 1416; when this manor and castle came, by virtue of an entail made by Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, in the 21st of Edw. III. to sir John Fitz-Alan, commonly called sir John Arundel, cousin
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and heir male to the last earl Thomas, and grandson to earl Richard, who dying in 1421, king Henry V. granted the custody of this manor and castle, then in the king's hands, (as guardian to John, son of John, earl of Arundel and Surry, by Alianore, daughter of sir John Berkley) to sir John Cornwayl, knight, with the marriage of the said minor, who was afterwards retained by king Henry V. in the wars of France, where dying, in the 13th of Henry VI. was buried in the church of the Friars Minors at Beauvois, leaving by Maud his wife, daughter of Robert Lovell, Humphrey his son and heir, which Humphrey being a minor, died in the 16th of the said king seized of this lordship and castle, when William Fitz-Alan, his father's brother, inherited the estate and honour; which William had, by Joan his wife, daughter of Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury, Thomas his heir and successor, in the 3d of Henry VII. who had livery of all his father's manors and lands on May the 21st, was earl of Arundel; and on his death, in the the 16th of Henry VIII. left William, lord Matrevers, his son and heir, by Margaret, daughter of Richard Widvile, earl Rivers, and sister to king Edward IV.'s queen, which marriage was settled in October, 1464, at Reading.

This William, earl of Arundel, married —, daughter of Henry earl of Northumberland, and on his death, in 1543, was succeeded by Henry Fitz-Alan, his son and heir, who married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, by whom he had two daughters and coheirs; Jane, who married John lord Lumley, and Mary, to Thomas Howard duke of Norfolk, by whom the earldom of Arundel was brought into that family, but the manor of Castle-acre was sold by the aforesaid Henry,

Henry, in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, to sir Thomas Gresham, knight, from whom it was conveyed to Thomas Cecil, who was afterwards earl of Exeter; and sir Edward Coke, lord chief justice, bought it of William Cecil earl of Exeter, whose sister Elizabeth he married, and in this family it remained, the right honourable Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester, the late lord, dying possessed of it in 1759.

FOX'S MANOR. John Fox of Castle-acre, by his will, dated on the feast of St. Michael, 1434, died seised of it, and left it to his-eldest son Thomas, and was buried in the priory church.

From the above John Fox this manor probably took its name.

By an inquisition taken at Norwich, October 23, in the 14th of king Charles I. — Becke, Gent. was found to die seised of the manor of Foxes, August 21, 1636, held of sir Robert Coke, in soccage, of his manor of Castle-acre, and Jeremy was his son and heir.

After this it was possessed by the Doves, of Upton in Northamptonshire, and sold in the reign of king George I. by — Dove, esq. to sir Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester.

It probably came to the Doves by the marriage of Mrs. Frances Becke, in 1633, (to Thomas Dove, esq.) daughter of William Becke of Castle-acre.

The church is dedicated to St. James, and was formerly a rectory, but is now a vicarage. It is a large regular building, consisting of a nave, a north and south isle, covered with lead, and a chancel
G 2 thatched;

thatched; at the west end is a lofty four-square tower, with five bells.

The present vicar is the Rev. Mr. Langton, of Longford in Derbyshire, who was presented in the year 1775 by the late Wenman Coke, esq. of Longford, on succeeding to the earl of Leicester's estate, on the demise of the countess of Leicester in the beginning of that year.

In the east window of the church are the arms of the earl Warren, checque, or, and azure; and about the church also in the windows, were the arms of the earls of Arundel, gules, a lion rampant, or; Le Gros, quarterly, argent and azure, on a bend, sable, three martlets, or; Mortimer, earl of Marth; Bohun, earl of Northampton; Hastings and Valentinia, quarterly, earls of Pembroke; Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, &c.

Thomas Candeler of Castleacre, by his will dated in 1514, was buried in the church, and gave two closes, called Costing and Westgate, to Thomas March and his heirs, "on the condition of keeping
" a light in the bason before our Lady in the cha-
" pel, with 5 waxe candels to be light at ev'ry prin-
" cipal feste, in every dobil feste 2, and every sin-
" gle feste 1; on a neglect whereof, then the church
" reeves to take the closes, and to keep the same."

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY and MANOR was founded on the following occasion. William de Warren (the first earl Warren, also earl of Moreton and Surry) being on a pilgrimage to Rome with his countess, in their way visited many of the foreign monasteries, and being received with particular respect by the prior and convent of Cluni in Burgundy,





dy, were admitted into their fraternity; and having long before determined to found some religious house for the welfare of their souls, they now came to a resolution to found it for the order of Clunial Monks: accordingly they obtained of the prior and convent four of their monks, of whom one Lanzo was chief; and the earl on his return to England granted the church of St. Pancras, standing under his castle of Lewes in Suffex, to the order, and endowed it with lands and possessions for the support and maintenance of twelve Clunial Monks, and confirmed the same to them by charter. This happened about the year 1078. Not long after, so great was his devotion and attachment to this order, that he annexed the church of Castleacre, and manor, given him by the Conqueror, with two carucates of land, to the monks of St. Pancras, and determined on founding another monastery at Castleacre, which should be subordinate to that at Lewes. This he accomplished accordingly, and dedicated it to God, St. Mary, and the holy apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, giving the monks the name of the Clunial Monks of St. Pancras at Lewes, serving God at Acre. Herbert, bishop of Norwich, constituted the church and monastery here, and placed therein Clunial Monks, under the rule of St. Benedict.

In a charter granted to this priory, William styles himself, earl of Surry, and for the salvation of his own soul, and that of his father and his mother, and his heirs, gives to this priory the church of Acre, the church of Methwold and advowson thereof, the church of Leaden Roding (in Essex) and advowson, with those of Wickmere and Trunch, and two parts of the tithes of his demesns in Grimstone in Norfolk.—Witnesses, William his son, Wi-

mer his fewer, William Blanche, Walkelin de Rofet, Hugh de Wanci, Robert de Mortimer.

Herbert, bishop of Norwich, confirmed the grant of this founder, and certified that the monks of Hacra had entered on that church with his consent, and that the monastery there built, was built by his provision.

William, the second earl of Warren and Surry, confirmed the aforesaid grant, and gave himself many other grants of lands and revenues to this priory, which bishop Everard appropriated and confirmed to them. Several others of this family of Surry gave churches and large endowments, so that in process of time the priory of Castleacre became one of the richest and most considerable in England.

Henry I. confirmed the grants of earl Warren as follows: *Notum sit p'sentib; et futuris qd. Ego Henricus, Dei gratia Rex Anglor. p. salute a'i'e meæ et antecessor. meor. et p. statu, et p. prosperitate regni, concedo Deo et scæ Mariæ de Achra et scis aplis Petro et Paulo, et monachis de sco. Pancratio ibm. Deo servientib; quicquid Will. de Warrenna dedit eis scil. in ip'a Achra duas carucas terre, et hocq' fregerunt de brueriis ejus, et culturam cum mora ubi ecc' a fundata est—Signum Heni. Regis, s. Rogeri epi.—s. Robti epi.—s. Willi. Comitis—s. Hen. Comitis—s. Ran. cancell.—s. Gilbi. de Aquila.—s. Herberti epi.—s. Willi. de Albeni.—s. Willi. de Curcy—s. Willi. Meschines—s. Willi. Piperelli—s. Stowe.—s. Jordani de Saiaco—s. Rog. fil Ric.*

William, the third earl Warren and Surry, on the dedication of the new church of this priory, confirmed all the donations of his ancestors and barons, that is, lords of towns under him.

Everard

Everard, bishop of Norwich, confirmed about the year 1140, the right of presentation, or right of tithes belonging to this priory, in these following churches : Acre, Newton (by Castle-acre) East and West Lexham, Dunham Magna, with St. Mary's chapel, Kempston, Whissonset, Weasenhams St. Peter, and St. Paul, Sengham, (Shingham) Otringhee, and Methwold, Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, Haverhill, Depden, Haspale, Bacton, Trunch, Wickmere, Itringham, Hailedune, Fulmondestone, East Baslam, West Baslam, Tatterset St. Andrew, Congham, and the patronage of the monastery of St. Andrew de Bromholm.

King Henry II. confirmed to the priory the churches of Newton by Acre, South Creak, and Flete, and granted them to be free from all toll.

John Plantagenet, earl of Warren, by his deed reciting that, Whereas his stewards and others his officers in Norfolk, had demanded of this priory certain pensions of meats and drinks as their right, given at first by the monks out of their free will and respect to the servants of the earls of Warren, belonging to their manor of Wike in Castle-acre, he by this deed quits claim to the same, and charges his officers not to demand or receive it for the future, dated May 10, Edward II. 9°.

Symon, bishop of Norwich, confirmed to the said priory the churches of East Acre, Newton, South Creak, West Baslam, Kempstone, Methwold, St. Mary Magdalen Wiggenhall, with many other donations.

Numberless were the benefactors and benefactions given to this priory ; churches, lands, and revenues

without end by the laity of those times. The archbishop of Canterbury contented himself with granting *indulgences*.

Walter de Grancourt gave by fine, in the 4th of Henry III. the church of Fulmondestone, which they had of the grant of Hugh his ancestor.

Adam Talbot gave by fine, 37th of Henry III. the church of St. Michael of Fincham.

William Bardolf gave the church of St. Peter of North Burlingham.

John Peckham, archbishop of Canterbury, granted an *indulgence* of thirty days to all who would pray for the soul of William, the third earl Warren, and fifteen days for that of Ela his countess, and twenty days for the souls of William, the first earl Warren and Surry, and Gundrede his wife, dated at South Malling, the 3d of the ides of July, 1283.

About this time the prior was found to hold four hundred and sixty acres of arable land, twenty of pasture, ten of meadow, five water mills, with the liberty of fishing therein, in pure alms, and divers other lands in this town, held by thirty-six tenants, a court baron, two folds, two free boars, and two bulls of the earl Warren.

In the 47th of Edward III. this priory was made *indigena*, and not subject, as a cell, to the prior of Lewes.

The monks certified to the king that the prior and convent of Castle-acre were all Englishmen, and not aliens, or the subject of any foreign power,
nor

nor paid any rents or pensions, or owed obedience to the abbot of Cluni, except only when he came into England to visit the priory, whereupon the house was allowed to be *indigena*, native, and not *alienigena*, alien, and was privileged accordingly.

Several small priories or cells belonged to this. Bartholomew de Granville confirmed it to the priory of Bromholm in Norfolk, founded by his father William.

William de Huntingfeld gave the priory of Mendham in Suffolk; William, the third earl Warren, the priory of Slevesholm in Methwold; William de Lifewis, and Godfrey his son, that of Normanfburgh in South Rainham. The prior of Coln in Essex paid an annual pension of 26s. per ann. a pension of 26s. 8d. per ann. out of the church of Aspal in Suffolk, and five marks out of that of Gayton in Norfolk, and a pension out of Barefield Parva in Essex.

But the time was approaching in which this proud and wealthy monastery, which had shook off dependence upon its original order and church, was to resign its honours, and give up its riches to the hand of power.

On the 22d of November, 1533, Thomas Malling, prior, and his convent, surrendered this priory, with the manor of Castle-acre Priors, and all its appurtenances, to king Henry VIII. In the surrender deed it is expressed, “for certain causes, just and reasonable, them, their souls and consciences especially moving, together with the scite of all the manors, messuages, lands and tenements, rents and services, &c. advowsons, and all manner of things

“ things thereunto belonging, in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, Cambridgeshire, &c. in England and Wales ;” and signed by Thomas Malling, prior, and ten monks, viz. John Hounsword, William Burgullion, Robert Daniel, Robert Fiske, William Elis, John Bets, Edmund Wadenowe, John Lowe, Robert Saary, and Robert Halman.

The king, on December 22, in his 39th year, granted the scite of this priory, the prior's manor, the impropriated rectory, and advowson of the vicarage, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; and in the 2d of Elizabeth, the duke of Norfolk alienated it to Thomas Gresham, who in the preceding year had purchased also of Henly, earl of Arundel, the lordship, or the earl's manor of Castle-acre. The duke is said to convey his part for 2000l. Gresham conveyed his right in both these lordships to Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter; and his son William, earl of Exeter, sold them to sir Edward Coke, lord chief justice of England, who married his sister. Sir Edward soon after fell under the displeasure of the king and nobles, was forbid the court, and struck off the council, and lived in great sorrow and disgrace: he was separated from his wife, his son died childless, and his daughter, the viscountess Purbeck, lived an open and scandalous adulteress. Sir Henry Spelman gives this among many other instances, of the misfortunes of those families that have dealt in church lands; and it must be acknowledged the lord chief justice dealt pretty largely in them, especially in the county of Norfolk. He was a great lawyer, but very rapacious, as the vast possessions left behind him to his descendants evidently shew.

The late earl of Leicester was lord of the manor of Arundel or Earl's, Prior's and Fox's, and impropriator and patron of the vicarage. His lordship left no issue, but died childless like his ancestor abovementioned: he had a son, the late lord viscount Coke, a man of great abilities, who died childless also; he represented this county in parliament for one parliament. On his decease the family estate was entailed by lord Leicester to a collateral branch, Wenman Roberts Coke, of Longford in Derbyshire, esq. the eldest son of his sister, who succeeded to it on the demise of lady Leicester in 1775, and died himself soon after in April 1776, having been elected representative of the county at the general election in 1774.

The site of the priory church lies west of the castle, was a venerable large Gothic pile, of freestone, flint, &c. and built in a cathedral or conventual manner; great part of the front or west end of it, is still remaining, where the principal entrance was through a great arch, over which was a stately window; on each side of the great door were doors to enter into the north and south isles, under the tower, as the grand door served for an entrance into the nave or body; at the north and south end of this front, or west end, stood two towers supported by strong arches and pillars; the nave or body had twelve great pillars, making seven arches on each side, the lowest joining to the towers; on the east end of the nave stood the grand tower, supported by four great pillars, through which was the entrance into the choir; on the south and north side of this tower were two cross isles or transepts, and at the end of the north transept there seems to have been a chapel or vestuary; the choir was of equal breadth with the nave and isles, but much shorter, and at
the

the east end of it was in form of a chapel, and here stood the high altar.

The cloister was on the south side of the church, and had an entrance into it at the west end of the south isle, near to the tower, and another at the east end of the said isle, near the grand tower; the chapter house seems to have joined to the east side of the cloister, and the dormitory to have been over the west part of the cloister. West of the cloister, and adjoining, was the prior's apartment, now converted into a farm house: in a large room above stairs, called now the prior's dining room, is a curious bow window of stone, consisting of nine panels: in the first were the arms of the priory, painted on the glass; in the second the arms of the earl of Arundel, and earl Warren, quarterly, but now broke and gone; in the third, Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, gules, a lion rampant, argent; 4th, the red and white rose united, and a crown over it; 5th, France and England quarterly; 6th, the rose, &c. as above; 7th, earl Warren's arms; 8th, quarterly, the earl of Arundel in the first and fourth quarter, and in the second and third Matrevers, sable, fretty, or, and Fitz-Alan, baron of Clun, p. fess, azure and argent, quarterly; 9th, argent, a cross compony, or, and azure, between twelve cross crosslets, fitché, sable; the priory arms, as we take it, and these letters *I. W.* joined together by a knot, and under it, *SPITV. PRINCIPALI. CONFIRMA. ME.*

By this it appears, that this window was built by John Winchelsey, prior in the reign of Hen. VII. or VIII. afterwards it might be converted into a dining room; but that it was originally a large chapel, and this room was only the west end of it, is apparent: it extended to the south tower of the church, where

at the east end of it is a large window, as in a chapel, and a step or ascent here, as to an altar: and on the south wall, near to this ascent, is an arched carved seat of stone, rising in form of a pyramid, with the shield of the earl Warren alone, which testifies it to be an antique pile, built in their time, before the patronage of the priory came to the earls of Arundel; and at the north east corner, near to the altar place, is a door place with a stone arch; and here was a stone staircase which led down into the cloister.

In another room was, a few years past, in a window, the broken portraiture of one of the earls of Arundel, in armour, with a broad sword in his hand, and on his surcoat the arms of Arundel, Mautrevers and Clun, as above, and part of a legend, *My trust ys* ———; also on a chapeau, gules, an oaken slip, vert, acorned or.

There are two prints of the ruins of this priory, one by Mr. Buck, who dedicated it to the lady Margaret, lady baroness of Clifford; and the other by Mr. Millicent. The scite of it took in several acres. The grand entrance was north of the priory church, where is now standing a large and stately gate-house of free-stone; over the arch as you enter are the arms of the earl Warren, of Arundel and earl Warren quarterly, France and England, and those of the priory.

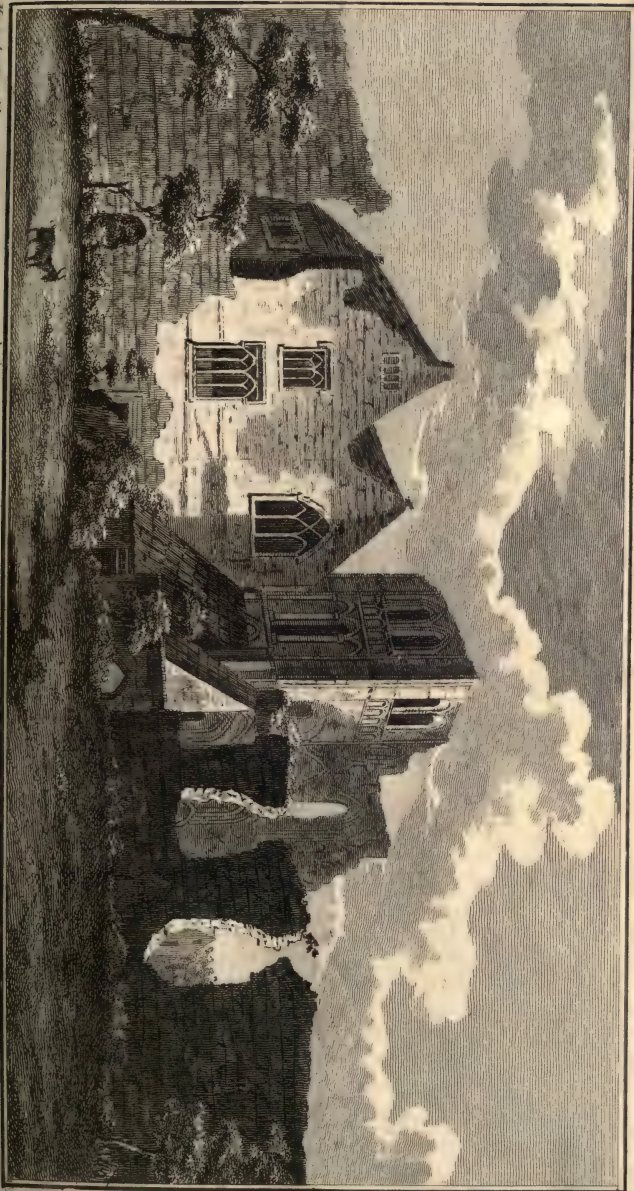
The whole scite was inclosed with a lofty stone wall, good part of which is still standing.

A little towards the east of the priory stood the castle, in a rising ground, from the south to the north, including, with all its outworks and fortifications,

tions, about eighteen acres of ground, in a circular form; through this there is a way, or street, called now the Bailey-street, with houses on each side, running directly north and south; at the entrance of this street, on the north, stands a stone gate-house, with two round bastions, and had two doors, an inward and outward one, with a portcullis in the middle; and no doubt there was another at the entrance of this street, on the south side, as you come from Swaffham, as appears from some marks still remaining. Near the north gate, on the east side of the street, was a chapel for the castle, the walls of which are still standing, and is now a dwelling-house; and on the east side of the said street, near the middle of it, was a strong stone gate-house, leading into the outward court of the great castle, which was circular, inclosed with a strong and lofty wall of free-stone, flint, &c. and embattled seven feet thick, a considerable part of which is still remaining, with a deep ditch, or entrenchment, and a lofty embattled wall round it; within this was the keep; and cross this deep ditch or entrenchment are three lofty walls at proper distances, which join the castle wall, as buttresses, &c. The whole area of this castle, with its entrenches and ditches, and an outward wall embattled as aforesaid, includes about eighteen acres of ground, and reaches near the river; where, under this embattled outward wall, is a terras walk, which affords a pleasant and agreeable prospect over the country, and water to supply and fill the ditches. The other part of the fortifications, lying on the west side of this Bailey-street, is called the Barbican, and contains above ten acres of land, and was enclosed by deep ditches, entrenchments, and high ramparts.

This castle, no doubt, was as agreeable for its apartments as its strength, and it appears that king
Edw.

CASLE-FAÇRE MONASTERY.





Edw. I. was entertained herein by earl Warren, in January 1297: and one thing is further remarkable of it, that the earl Warren, the founder, though he had one hundred and forty lordships in Norfolk, chose this for his chief great honour, or lordship, and residence; and his other lordships were dependent on it; and in this castle was a chapel, with monks therein, before the death of the first earl Warren, in 1089.

The Romans seem to have had a station here, where the castle now stands, which might have induced also the first earl Warren to make choice of it; and from the north part of the present entrenchments, there runs a way which goes to Castle-acre Wicken, and from thence it proceeds over the country, leaving Massingham and Houghton on the right and Anner on the left hand, and is commonly called The Pedder's Way, and between the two last-mentioned towns, on the said way, may be observed many *tumuli*; hence it tends in a direct course, leaving Fring a little on the right hand, and so for Ringstead, &c. the sea coast, and Brancaster.

Several Roman coins have been found here, and some lately of Vespasian, Constantine, &c. And not many years past, a cornelian seal, or ring, with the impress of an emperor, his head radiated, was found in a close called Arundel Close.

From the beauty of the situation of Castle-acre, and the noble ruins at present remaining, of which the semicircular wall of the castle is a very grand and striking ruin, the late earl of Leicester at one time entertained an idea of building there: a situation no doubt every way superior to that of Holkham, where he afterwards raised so enormous a pile:
a pile

a pile consisting of many detached parts; and enormous as it is, there are few grand rooms in it, not a second dining-room; the whole house seems taken up and crowded with winding alleys and passages, so that it is difficult to find the way from one apartment to another; but a more particular description will be given when we come to the hundred it is situated in. Instead of a fine command of country as at Castle-acre, with a river winding through the meadows to the south, the house at Holkham stands in a hole, with a lake of water running to the north.

“Two cupids squirt before: *a lake behind*

“Improves the keenness of the *northern wind*.”

POPE.

Lord Leicester had a noble opportunity at Castle-acre to have thrown the ruins and church into a park, to have formed the most extensive pieces of water to the south, and to have built a palace upon a commanding eminence, that might have attracted the admiration of the whole world. His reason for not doing it is said to have been, the erecting the new house on the spot where the old one stood: however reprehensible the reason, it has had its weight in many great structures in this kingdom.

CASTLE-RISING. Next to Lynn and Yarmouth, this was formerly the most considerable seaport town in Norfolk. It was distinguished and claims the superiority over all other towns in this hundred, by a famous castle that, as Camden says, vies with the castle of Norwich. By this hundred we mean the hundred of Freebridge Lynn, (independent of Marshland) which is bounded on the East by the hundreds of Launditch and Gallow, on the north by Smithdon, on the south by Clackclose and South

South Greenhoe, and on the west by Lynn Deep and the channel. This hundred was granted in special tail by king Richard III. to John earl of Norfolk, whom he created duke of Norfolk, and earl marshal of England at the same time, for his fidelity to the York Family, and who was killed with him at the battle of Bosworth near Leicester.

August 22, 1485, the night before the battle, the following couplet was thrown into his tent.

“ *Jockey* of Norfolk, be not so bold,
 “ For *Dicken* thy master is bought and fold.”

These verses were evidently intended to give the duke an hint of some unknown defection or conspiracy amongst Richard's troops, and to prevent his exposing his person too much in the action expected the next day: probably it was done by order of king Henry VII. who might have an inclination to save the duke. The defection alluded to was that of the lord Stanley, whose forces, led on by sir William Stanley, when they saw their time joined those of the earl of Richmond, and falling upon the king's troops, defeated them with great slaughter, and turned the victory in favour of the earl, near whom Richard was slain fighting with great bravery. That king Henry might probably be inclined to preserve the life of the duke of Norfolk, as honouring him for his steady though mistaken loyalty, is in some measure confirmed by his asking his son, the earl of Surry, who was taken prisoner, “ How he dare to bear arms in behalf of that tyrant and usurper Richard?” to which the earl replied with great spirit, “ He was my crowned king, “ and if the parliamentary authority of England sat “ the crown upon a *stock*, I will fight for *that stock*;

H

“ and

“and as I fought then for him, I will fight for you,
“when you are established by the said authority.”

This proves that the idea of hereditary indefeasible right was by no means entertained by the nobility of that age.

This lordship, which formerly was a beruite to the great lordship of Snettisham, was granted upon the rebellion of Odo, to William de Albini, king's butler.

From the Albinis, in process of time, this lordship came with the castle to Roger de Monte Alto, lord of Montalt or Mohaut, who made it his chief seat and place of residence here.

Roger, (called Robert by Dugdale) lord Montalt, died in the 44th of Henry III. and left John his son and heir.

Robert lord Montalt succeeded his brother John, about the 52d of the aforesaid king.

He was succeeded by Roger, his son and heir, by Isabel his wife, who married Julian, daughter of Roger Clifford, and was impleaded on account of the rights of his chace, in the 18th of Edward I. by William Rusteng, lord of Congham, a dog of his tenant having his claws cut off by this lord's servants. He dying in the 25th of the said king, aged 27, without issue, was succeeded by his brother, Robert lord Montalt, who was the eighteenth lord of parliament who sealed the famous letter sent to the pope, in the 29th year of Edward I. denying the kingdom of Scotland to be of his fee, or that he had any jurisdiction in temporal affairs, dated at Lincoln, February 12, 1301.

In the 1st of Edward II. he was summoned amongst other nobles to attend the king's coronation, to be solemnized the Sunday next after the feast of St. Valentine, by writ dated at Dover, January 8. In the 12th of the said king, the charter of wreck at sea, in all his lands in this county was confirmed to him: Snettisham, Heacham, Hunstanton, Thornt- ham, Titchwell, &c. are particularly mentioned.— William de Albini, earl of Suffex, having one in the time of Henry III. through the whole hundreds of Freebridge and Smithdon.

In the 18th of the said king, on September 30, the king sent a precept to this lord, and Thomas lord Bardolph, to inform them of Mortimer's approach, and to be careful of the country hereabouts.

This Robert appears to have inherited large possessions, as heir to his brother.

Robert lord Montalt, died on Tuesday next after the feast of the nativity of our Lord, in the year 1329, in the 3d of Edward III. without issue, and was buried in the priory of Shouldham in Norfolk, being the last heir male of that family, who took their name from a hill in Flintshire in Wales, where they anciently resided and had a castle.

The lady Emma, his widow, by deed dated at London, Decem^{ber} 3, in the 5th of the aforesaid king, surrendered up all the aforementioned castles, manors, &c. with all her rights in London, (for 400l. per ann. annuity) to the queen dowager of Edward II. queen Isabel, then regent of the kingdom during the minority of the king her son, Edward III.

Soon after this she died, and was buried in the body of the church of Stradset in Norfolk, a large grave-stone of black marble lying over her at this day. Whose daughter she was does not appear: she was probably a daughter of De Stradsete, a family of great antiquity, lords of Stradset.

At her death the queen Isabel took possession of this lordship and castle.

King Edward III. in his 11th year, October 1, settled the reversion of this manor and castle on his eldest son Edward, after the death of his mother; John of Eltham, earl of Cornwall, (his brother) being dead, and leaving no issue, on whom it was before settled.

In the year 1327, king Edward II. having resigned his crown to his son, Edward III. who was then only sixteen years of age, was soon after put to death at Berkeley castle in Gloucestershire, by the contrivance of Mortimer, the favourite of queen Isabel, and on the following equivocal and ambiguous warrant, said to be wrote by Adam de Torleton, bishop of Hereford.

“ Edwardum Occidere Nolite Timere Bonum est.”

After the death of Edward II. Isabel his queen assumed the reins of government, on account of the youth of her son, king Edward III. and having delegated almost absolute power to her minion Mortimer, he behaved with that insolence to the nobles, and oppressed the kingdom to such a degree, that a conspiracy was formed by the king's uncle, the earl of Kent, against queen Isabel; and the young king being properly informed of the too great familiarity
between

between his mother and Mortimer, surprized and seized him in the presence of the queen, at Nottingham castle, where she resided, and where Mortimer had access to her through a subterraneous passage, the entrance of which is visible at this day, and at this day called Mortimer's Hole. Lord Mortimer was executed at Tyburn in the 4th year of Edward III. 1330. The queen was confined, and by a parliament held at Nottingham, her dowry was taken from her, and changed to an annuity of 1000*l*. King Edward III. then nineteen years of age, took the government into his own hands. Thus much was necessary to mention of the history of this queen, for the elucidating her confinement in this castle of Rising.

This queen had her residence here the greatest part of her widowhood, after the execution of her great favourite Mortimer, earl of March.

Grafton tells us, that the king, by the advice of his council, committed his mother, as prisoner, to be kept close in a castle, (but does not name it) where she remained during her life: her commitment was in king Edward's fourth year, 1330.

In the year 1340, in the 14th year of his reign, the king and his queen were at this castle, paying a visit to his mother, and made some stay here, as appears by the account rolls of Adam de Reffham and John de Newland, of Lynn by Rising, sending a present of wine to him.

In August 1340, (14th of Edward III.) queen Isabel sent her precept from this castle to John de Cokesford, mayor of Lynn, to send her eight car-

penters to make several preparations therein, probably for the reception of the king and queen.

In his 18th year, the king on the 3d of August was lodged here, as appears from several letters dated from this place, and sent to William bishop of Norwich, at Avignon, to be presented to the pope.

On April 4, in 1357, (the 31st of Edward III.) a safe conduct was granted to William de Leith, a Scotchman, to wait on her here, and in the next year following, 1358, she died at this castle, on August 22, and was brought from hence about the end of November following; on the 20th of which month the king directed, by letter, the sheriffs of London and Middlesex to cleanse the streets of London called Bishopsgate and Aldgate, from dirt and dung, against the coming of the body of his mother; and directs by another, dated December 1 following, the treasurer and barons of the exchequer to allow 9l. which the sheriffs had expended for that purpose. She was buried in the midst of the choir of the Grey Friars church in London, and had a tomb of alabaster erected to her memory.

It may be here observed that Mortimer, her great favourite, was buried here, as Stow in his Annals, p. 350, quarto.

On the death of queen Isabel this lordship, and honor as it is called, descended to her grandson, Edward prince of Wales, and was valued, as appears from an account of his revenue, at 90l. per ann. and at the death of this prince, to his son Richard, soon after king of England, by the name of Richard II.

In the 2d year of his reign, king Richard II. granted to John Montfort, surnamed the Valiant, duke of Britain and earl of Richmond, and to Joan his wife, called by the king in his grant, his sister, in exchange for the castle of Brest in Britany.

Of this Joan a query arises : Godfrey, in his history of king Charles VII. of France, says that he married to his second wife a daughter of Edward the Black Prince, father of king Richard II. but as none of our genealogists have mentioned this, he must be mistaken. Philip L'Abbe, in his *Tableaux Genealogiques*, observes that the second wife of the aforesaid John, was Joan, daughter of Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, by Joan his wife, called the Fair Maid of Kent, daughter of Edmund Plantagenet, earl of Kent ; and afterwards married to Edward the Black Prince, and so was, as he words it, *Soeur Uterine de Richd. le II. Roy d'Angleterre*, that is, sister by her mother, to Richard II.

On Montfort's defection from the crown of England, (and deposition from all titles of honour in England, by act of parliament in the 14th of the said king) it was seized into the king's hands, who in the said year gave it to Thomas de Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, sixth son to king Edward III. who being murdered at Calais, in the 21st year of king Richard, Edmund de Langley, duke of York, fifth son to king Edward III. obtained a grant of it, with the manors of Beeston and Milcham, &c. in Norfolk, and died possessed of it in the 4th of king Henry IV. when it descended to his eldest son, Edward duke of York ; who being slain in the famous battle of Agincourt in France, in the 3d of Henry V. it came to his brother, Richard de Coningsbergh, earl of Cambridge, who being beheaded in the said

year, it fell to the crown, where it remained till the 36th of Henry VIII. when an act of parliament passed, ratifying an exchange between the king, Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and Henry his son, earl of Arundel and Surry; they giving to the king the manors of Walton, Trimley, Falkenham, with the rectories of Walton and Felixton in Suffolk, for the castle, manor, and chace of Rising and all its appurtenances, with the manors of Thorpe, Gaywood, South Walsingham, Halvergate and Ditchingham in Norfolk, Doningworth, Cratfield, Hoo, Staverton and Bromeswell in Suffolk, to be held of the king *in capite*, by the thirtieth part of a knight's fee, and the rent of 26l. per ann. payable at St. Michael, into the court of Augmentations. Henry the son, earl of Arundel, &c. being attainted in his father's life time, the duke enjoyed this manor, &c. till his death, in the 1st and 2d of Philip and Mary, when an act of parliament passed for the restoring of the son of the attainted earl.

In the accounts of sir John Arundel, knight, receiver of the dutchy of Cornwall in the reign of king Henry VIII. he had allowances for 40s. per ann. paid to sir Henry Marny, knight, as steward of this lordship; 13l. 8s. as constable of the castle; 4l. 11s. 3d. as ranger of the chace; and for two under foresters, called Walkers, 53s. 4d. per ann. At this time sir Thomas Lovel, knight of the garter, was farmer of the demeans and the warren.

On the attainder of Thomas duke of Norfolk, in the 15th of Elizabeth, it came again to the crown, and she granted it to Edward earl of Oxford, with the demeans of Gaywood; but this grant was soon revoked, and it was granted to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, brother to the duke of Norfolk, attainted;

attainted; who held it to his death, in 1616, and having no issue it descended to Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel, his heir; which Thomas was grandson to Thomas duke of Norfolk aforesaid, and brother to the earl of Northampton; and in this family it remained till it was bought by Thomas Howard, esq. (one of the tellers of the exchequer, son and heir of sir Robert Howard, knt. auditor of the exchequer, sixth son to Thomas Howard, earl of Berkshire) of Henry duke of Norfolk, in 1693.

After this it came to the earl of Berkshire, as heir to the aforesaid Thomas Howard, esq. The earl of Berkshire dying *s. p.* it descended to the earl of Suffolk, the present lord, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, knight of the garter, and one of his majesty's most honourable privy council, 1778.

The duke of Norfolk has the title of lord Howard of Castle-Rising; Henry Howard of Castle-Rising, heir of the said family, being so created by letters patent, March 27, in the 21st of Charles II.

Two members of parliament are chosen by the free burghers, their representatives therein.

The town takes its name from its scite, (Rye is the name of a river, in Yorkshire, &c. and of a borough town in Suffex) by a river, on a hill, which affords a fine prospect, overlooking a large arm of the sea; and from Ing, a meadow, or marsh ground.

Sir Henry Spelman, who lived at Congham, in the neighbourhood of it, says it has been a famous port,

port, but being stopped up with sands, was the cause of its great decay.

The said author observes, that it is a burgh of such antiquity that the royal archives and records give no account of it; the scite of it such, that he thinks the Romans had a place of defence here, some of their coin being found here, and a Constantine being brought to him.

That the sea had formerly its course near to, and came up probably to the town, appears in some measure from its being drowned in winter, frequently on spring tides the salt water overflowing the banks, between this town and Babingly; and from the name of a street, that comes up to this town from the low ground, called by the inhabitants at this day, Haven-Gate Lane, which is very oufy, and in this lane there was some years past, in digging, taken up a piece of an anchor belonging to some ship.

In the 31st of Elizabeth, on the 1st of August, a survey of this lordship was made by sir Nicholas Bacon, knt. John Hill, esq. one of the auditors of the exchequer, Robert Buxton, esq. and Robert Shepherd, gent. commissioners appointed by that queen to survey this manor, part of the lands of Philip earl of Arundel, attainted and convicted; who on the oaths of Henry Mordant, gent. Thomas Winde, gent. Thomas Spratt, gent. Joseph Wright, gent. and fifteen others, present and affirm, that the town of Castle-Rising is an ancient burgh, and hath in it a mayor and burgesses: and many ancient privileges, franchises and liberties have been granted to Hugh de Albini, earl of Suffex and Arundel, some time lord of the manor, which pri-
vileges

vileges have been heretofore found by diverse inquisitions, viz.

First, 'Tis granted to this said earl and his heirs, his stewards and tenants, from this time to be quit and free of pannage, tallage, passage, payage, lastage, stallage, portage, pefage and terrage, through the parts of England. Also that they shall have a mayor, that by them shall be chosen, and be presented to the earls and his steward.

They shall sell, or give their burgages to whom they will, without any gain-faying.

If a burges die, the next heir shall enter into burgage without any gain-faying.

The lord shall not have the custody or the heir of a burgager, but his kin, or next cousin by the mother's side.

Their heirs shall marry themselves wheresoever they like.

If feizure of a burgage be made, it shall be by the bailiffs, and keepers of the market.

They shall take for their debts, in the town of Rising and without, as far as the warren stretches.

They shall distrain no burges within his burgage.

If actions, or strife, shall happen between burges and burges, in the town or without, the mayor shall have them attached; shall set them a day until the Monday next, and before him shall their tales be told and brought.

If

If their tales happen not to be appeals of felony, or of a deadly wound, or such other as longeth to the crown.

Also full amercement, in court, the burgefs that is guilty and hath trespaffed, fhall make to the mayor; and that fhall he prefent to the fteward, or lord's bailiff, and they fhall do therein their wills.

If the lord will have any burgefs in his fervice, he fhall find him reasonable expences.

They fhall not ferve to the hundred, or fhire, they fhall not be put upon affize.

They fhall not be diftreffed by bailiffs of the hundred.

They fhall not be accused at the view of frankpledge for answer, but he that trespaffes for that pledge fhall make amends.

If the fon of a burgefs fhall enter into frankpledge, that is to fay the lete, he fhall not pay, and he fhall have free entry into the common pafures of the town.

The burgeffes have grant of a fair, or free mart, from the feaft of St. Matthew, during fifteen days; and two markets in the week, Monday and Thursday.

They fhall give no custom in the market of Rifing, of their corn that comes out of their barns; or any other thing that they buy to their proper ufe in the faid market, and they fhall do no fuit.

If any burgeses be a merchant, and put any thing to the market of Rising to sell, he shall give half custom, except bakers, who shall give whole custom to the lord.

Also they shall give no custom, or usage, in the havens of the lord in the marsh.

If any burgeses be summoned before the lord, or his steward, his summons shall be made by the mayor, and by none other.

If the lord makes his eldest son a knight, or his eldest daughter be married, then the burgeses shall give him reasonable help, else not.

The servants of the lord shall not take the geese, capons, or fish or flesh, meat or drink, at their wills, without leave of the burgeses, and without their consent.

Also they shall have all their measures the same as at Norwich.

That the warren hath been by the space of two or three years past greatly furcharged, the warrener being covenanted to leave for his view, three thousand eight hundred coneyes; he has killed the last year seventeen thousand, and may kill for this year as many, or more, his number for view being treble reserved; and by this the castle stock of six hundred weathers is utterly overthrown, and the inhabitants and tenants of the towns adjoining injured, which will be an occasion of impairing her majesty's rent, and the undoing of the inhabitants, &c. and that by the increase of these conies by the warrener, and their breeding in the castle ditches and banks, the
same

same are decayed, and the walls are already in part, and the rest in danger of overthrowing; that the said banks and ditches are no parcel of the warren, and that the constabulary of the castle is no part of the warren of Rising, and that the burgh, and the closes belonging, &c. are also no part of the warren.

By this presentment it appears that Hugh de Albini, earl of Arundel and Suffex, had a charter for many royal privileges and liberties, with that of a mayor, in this lordship, and this must be in some year between 1233, (the earl being then a minor) and 1242, in which year he died.

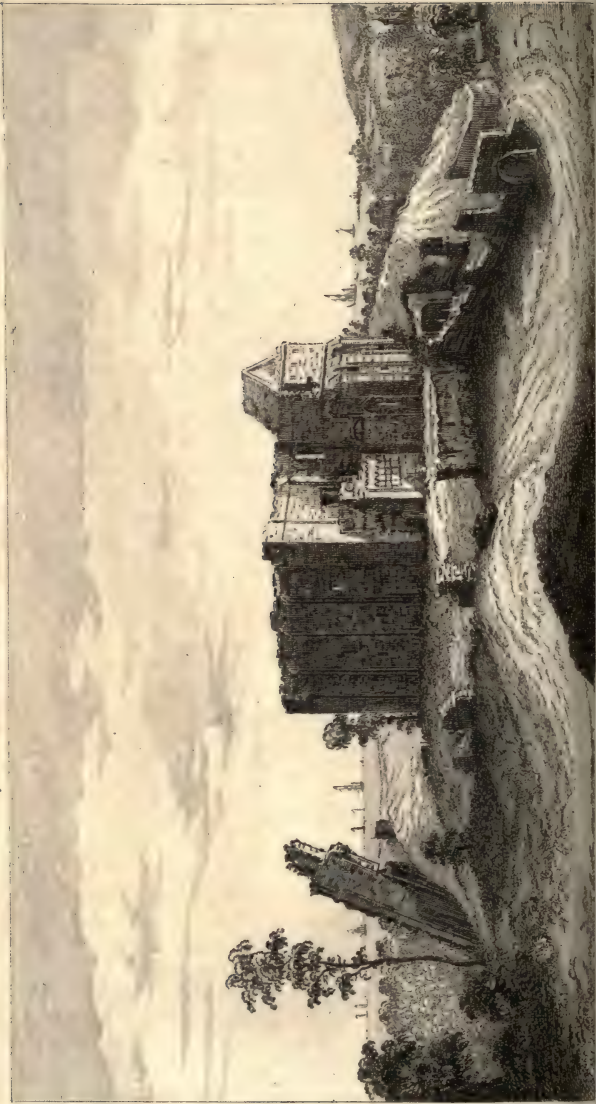
This ancient burgh, the mayor of which is always called over first and before the mayors of any other borough in the county, at the reading the king's commission of the peace before the judges of the assize, a strong proof of its superior antiquity, was formerly governed by a mayor, recorder, high steward, twelve aldermen, a speaker of the commons, and fifty (some say seventy) burgesses; at present the corporation consists of two aldermen, who are alternately mayors. The burgesses who elect the two representatives in parliament with the mayor and aldermen, the mayor returning officer, are seldom upon the poll more than five or six, and the burgage tenures are the property of the earls of Suffolk and Orford.

The mayor is chosen annually, the day before St. Michael, by the free burghers, or voters, who were about sixty or seventy in number in 1716, but he is not sworn into his office till the court leet, which is held about All Saints Day, and has a mace carried before him to church on Sundays by a serjeant, and on other public occasions.

The



RISING CASTLE.



The seal of the corporation, or mayor, is a castle.

The castle of Riving was built after the grant of the town and lordship by king William II. to William de Albini, that king's pincerna, or butler, and probably by his son William, the first earl of Sussex, who died in 1176. It stands upon a hill, on the south side of the town, from whence is a fine prospect over land, and an arm of the sea: great part of the walls of the keep, or inward tower, are still standing, being a Gothic pile, much resembling that of Norwich, and little inferior, the walls being about three yards thick, consisting chiefly of freestone, with iron, or car stone, encompassed with a great circular ditch and bank of earth, on which stood also a strong stone wall, as appears from the presentment above mentioned in the 31st of Elizabeth, when the wall on the said bank is said to be in part, and the rest in danger of being overthrown by the warreners conies. This ditch, now dry, was probably formerly filled with water; there is but one entrance to it, on the east side, over a strong stone bridge, about thirty paces long, (with a gatehouse thereon) about eight or nine paces broad, and is supported by one arch.

The inward part of the castle, or keep, is all in ruins, except one room, where the court leet of this lordship is held; no doubt the apartments here were grand and sumptuous, when queen Isabel here resided, and when the great king Edward III. with his queen and court were often entertained, and lodged here.

On the walls which are decaying, having no cover, were towers, or turrets, which the lords of the manors

manors of Hunstanton, Roydon, and the Woottons, were by their tenures obliged to guard and defend. The compass of the ditch that incloses the whole is above one thousand and eighty paces.

It seems to have been by its site a place of strength and consequence. In the 18th of Edward II. September 22, that king sent his precept to the lord Montalt, the lord of it, to have great care and guard of it, on account of the approach of Mortimer.

Mortimer, the great favourite of the queen, making his escape out of the Tower of London in the preceding month, was then with her in France, and both preparing to land with an army in England, to dethrone this king, which they soon after effected.

Persons famous for their gallantry in military affairs and actions, appear to have been honoured with the constableship and government of it.

Queen Isabel, dowager of England, gave it, being lady of the manor and castle, to John de Herlyng, as appears by her patent.

*“ ISABEL, by the grace of God, queen of England,
“ lady of Ireland, countess of Pontiffe, &c. to
“ whom these presents shall come greeting.”*

“ KNOW ye, that We, for the good and faithful service which our beloved servant John of Herlyng, hath long since performed to our thrice dear son the king, and likewise to Us, have granted to the said John, for the term of his life, the constableship and guard of our castle of Rising, and to be surveyor of our chace there, he receiving

“ing of Us the said offices during his life, every
 “day 12d. of the profits of our manor there, by
 “the hands of our bailiff and provost for the time
 “being; wherefore we command all them whom it
 “shall any ways concern, that to the said John, as
 “to our constable, guardian, and surveyor there,
 “they be attending and respondent in the manner
 “as appertains to the said offices. In testimony of
 “which, we have caused these our letters patent to
 “be drawn.”

“Given at our castle of Hertford, the 6th day of
 “November, in the 20th year of the reign of our
 “aforesaid deare son the king.”

After this, Edward prince of Wales confirmed the
 same in the following manner.

“WE, for the affection we beare to the person of
 “the said John Herlyng, &c. at his request confirm
 “to him the grant which our said lady and grand-
 “mother hath made, &c. and besides, in considera-
 “tion of the contumelies and hardships the said
 “John hath, from day to day, in the service of our
 “said lord and father, the king; and being there-
 “fore willing for that cause to shew him more espe-
 “cial favour, We do, and grant, &c. to the said
 “John, in case the said castle and manor should
 “come into our hands, by the decease of our said
 “lady and grandmother, &c. the reversion being in
 “Us, the said constableship, &c. to hold for the
 “terme of his life, &c.”

“In witness whereof, We have caused these our
 “letters to be made patent. Given at London un-
 “der our privy seale, the 21st day of July, in the
 I “reign

“reign of our said lord and father the king of
“England, the 27th, and of France the 14th.”

King Edward III. also approved and ratified the said letters patent; witnesses, the king, at Westminster, &c.

The aforefaid John de Herlyng, knt. was a famous foldier, remarkable for his skill in maritime affairs, and had the custody of the sea coasts about Bristol in 1342: he was lord of East Harling in Norfolk.

In the 6th year of king Henry IV. John Wodehouse occurs constable, who was remarkably famous in the following reign at the battle of Agincourt in France.

Ralph lord Cromwell, was constable in the reign of Henry VI. The said king, in his 27th year, granted to Thomas Daniel, esq. the office of constable, keeper of the forest, chace, or warren, then held by Ralph lord Cromwell, on the death of the said lord, or on rendering up his letters patent, or any other way, when they shall be vacant, to him the said Thomas, and to his heirs lawfully begotten, to receive the same fees and perquisites, &c. as the said Ralph holds; dated at Canterbury, the 8th of September. This Thomas was afterwards made a knight, and married Margaret, daughter of sir Robert Howard, and sister of John, the first duke of Norfolk of that family. He is said to have been attainted in the 1st of Edward IV. but was afterwards restored in blood and possessions, in the 14th of that king.

The date of this patent seems to destroy the tradition that queen Isabel was close prisoner for life,
at

at the castle of Riving, by the words recited therein :

“ Given at our castle of Hertford the 6th day of
 “ November, in the 20th year of the reign of our
 “ aforefaid deare fon the king.”

’Tis probable the queen refided alternately at different caftles, though ſhe might continue a ſtate priſoner during life. By this queen our ſovereign derives the honorary title of King of France, her right to the crown of France being not to be controverted, but on the principle of the Salique Law, “ that
 “ the crown ſhould not deſcend to females.”

Queen Ifabel was daughter to Philip the Fair, king of France, and ſiſter to Lewis Hutin, Philip the Long, and Charles the Fair, all kings of France ſucceſſively, and all her three brothers died without iſſue; but the French would not admit her to the crown on pretence of an old fundamental law, mentioned before, the Salique Law, but advanced to the crown Philip Valois, whoſe father was younger brother to Philip the Fair, thereby excluding king Edward III. to whom, in right of his mother Ifabel, the crown of France regularly devolved: in maintenance of which right king Edward III. made war upon the French, and ſailing firſt to Antwerp, there aſſumed the title of king of France, and quartered the *fleurs de lis* with the lions and arms of England.

In the 34th of Henry VI. Thomas lord Scales had a patent to be governor, or conſtable, and appointed to reſide there for its better ſafe-guard.

In the firſt of Henry VII. John Vere, earl of Oxford, was made conſtable of the caſtle, ſteward of

the honour of Rising, and ranger of the chace for life, who commanded the vanguard in the battle of Bosworth, wherein king Richard III. was slain.

In the time of king Henry VIII. sir Henry Marny, lord Marny, was constable, and had 13l. 8s. per ann. fee allowed him: it is reasonable to suppose, it was at that time in a good state and condition. This lord Marny was one of the chief commanders under Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, on his taking Montdidier in France, in the 15th of Henry VIII. He had also 40s. per ann. as steward of this lordship, and 4l. 11s. 3d. per ann. as ranger of the chace, and 53s. 4d. per ann. for two under foresters, or walkers.

Near to the castle on the south side stood a chapel, for the service of the lord, &c. now in ruins.

The town is remarkable also for an hospital built by Henry Howard, earl of Northampton. In the accounts of Owen Shepherd, gent. in the 6th of king James I. receiver of the lands, &c. of the said earl, he accounts for 451l. 14s. 2d. *ob.* paid in that year to Richard Hovell, junior, esq. for building this alms-house.

It stands near to the east end of the church-yard, and is a square building, containing twelve rooms or apartments for twelve poor women, and one good room for the governess, with a spacious hall and kitchen, and a decent chapel, which projects from the rest on the east side. The letters patent for the foundation bear date June 1, in the 13th year of the aforesaid king.

It is endowed with 100*l.* per ann. out of lands lying in Rising, Roydon, South and North Wootton, and Gaywood; also with 5*l.* every fifth year from an hospital in Greenwich, founded by the said earl, for a stock or fund to repair it.

Their monthly allowance is eight shillings each, and the governess has twelve shillings; but on certain festival days appointed by the founder, viz. All Saints, Christmas, New Year, Epiphany, Purification, St. Matthias, (which is the founder's birthday) Annunciation, Easter Day, Ascension, Whitsunday, Trinity Sunday, St. John Baptist's and St. Michael's day, they have an addition of one shilling to the governess, and eight-pence to every poor woman. Every year each poor woman, and the governess, have for their constant apparel a gown of strong cloth, or kersey, of a dark colour; and every seventh year a livery gown, (and a hat) of blue broad cloth, lined with bays, with the founder's badge or cognizance set on the breast, being a lion rampant, argent, embroidered. The governess is allowed two chaldron of coals per ann. and the rest one chaldron each. They are obliged to be regularly and constant at the church of Rising on Sundays, and at their own chapel every day at nine in the morning and three in the afternoon, by the toll of a bell, where the governess reads prayers: they are also enjoined to use certain prayers, appointed by their founder, morning and evening, in their own apartments, and not to go out without the leave of the governess.

The qualifications required on admission are:—They must be of an honest life and conversation; religious, grave, and discreet; able to read, if such a one may be had; a single woman, her place to be

void upon marriage; to be fifty-six years of age at least; no common beggar, harlot, scold, drunkard, haunter of taverns, inns, or ale-houses; to lose their places if, after admission, any lands descend to them of the value of 5*l.* per ann. or goods to the value of 5*cl.* To go to prayers three times every day, and to say the Lord's prayer, the creed, and a prayer ordered by the founder; to go to church morning and evening every Sunday and holiday, and Wednesday and Friday.

On being guilty of atheism, heresy, blasphemy, faction in the hospital, injury, or disgracing the assistants, neglect of duty, or misbehaviour in the performance of duty, to do any thing to the hurt or prejudice of the hospital, is expulsion.

The duty of the governess is to preserve the household stuff of the hospital, to take care of the sick, to cause the gates to be shut morning and evening at due hours; to deliver out the blue gowns every Sunday and holiday morning, and to receive the same back again at night; to ring the bell every morning and evening for prayers, to shut the gates at prayer time; to look to the reparations of the hospital, that not so much as one stone be missing, either in the walls or upon the hospital, by the space of a month; to keep the piece of ground on the north west side of the hospital next adjoining to the walls, and to preserve the trees; to keep her garden plot fair and handsome, to reside constantly there, not to lie abroad without licence, nor above seven days (with licence) in any one year; to give security in 20*l.* penalty upon her admission, for the performance of duty, the security to be given to the mayor of Rising. She is also to read prayers appointed in the chapel twice every day, not to permit

mit any stranger to lie in the hospital, to dine and sup with the poor women in the hall on festival days.

The offences of the governess, by the statutes of the founder, are to be certified to the earl of Arundel, or his heir, (who is now the earl of Suffolk) by two of the assistants, and then the earl to take order therein, by expulsion, or otherwise, as he shall think fit.

If the earl of Arundel, or his next heir, within sixty days after a certificate sent to him of a death or removal, does not appoint a new governess, or poor woman, then the mayor of Lynn is to do it.

Here was also a famous chace for deer, and a warren belonging to this lordship.

In the 39th of Elizabeth great disputes arose about the bounds and limits of them, between Anne countess of Arundel, widow of Philip earl of Arundel, and William Cobbe, esq. Henry Spelman, &c. and other neighbouring lords of manors, this lordship being part of her jointure; and in the said year depositions were taken at Lynn, on the 26th of July, before Thomas Fermer, Richard Stubbs, John Willoughbye, and William Guybon, esq.

John Jeffrey, of Rising castle, labourer, aged 76, then deposed that he had known Rising chace and warren sixty years; that he dwelt in Wootton and Rising all his life, and boundeth the limits, purlieu, or walks of the chace, thus:

From Rising to Pabingly mill, from thence to Rattleman's Lane, so to Hall Lane, so to Butler's

Cross, so in a green way leading to Newton, so to Wade's mill, so southward down a way leading to Capp mill, so to Pedders lane, or way, so to Gattton, so to Hillington bridge, so southward over the moor to Homeston, so into Ruston's Lane, so to two lanes the names he remembereth not, so southward to Bone's bridge, so along the river to Weyvelinge house, so along the river to Bawsey dike, so by the old river to Bawsey water, and so along the river to Gaywood bridge.

And further saith, that so much of the ground as lieth in the towns of Rising, North and South Wootton, Ryfflye, Grimston, Wyvelingham and Roydon, are within the limits of the chace, and have been reputed, used, lett, &c. as parcel of the said chace.

He saith also that the bounds and limits of the said warren, extend from Roydon to Hall-Hill, and so near to Roydon church, and thence down a way to Hillington Cawsey, thence to Queene Hill, and so to Wardyke; and he saith, that the keepers, &c. have at their wills, used to chase and rechase the deer within the said limits; that in the nine acres there were burrowing a thousand conies and divers falls; that the warreners have at their wills, until now of late, quietly and peaceably hunted, hayed, ferited, digged, killed, and carried away all such conies as bred and burrowed upon the nine acres, Congham Lyings and Moor; and that the warreners always paid tithe conies thereon to the parsons of Congham, and he never heard any farm conies to Mr. Spilman, or any other for the nine acres and Congham Lyings. He saith Mr. Waller's grounds begin at King's Thorn, where some time was great flore of conies, and so southward to the said pits, so to Hall-Hill, so to the hangings of Goldworthy Hill,

Hill, unto the south side thereof, and never knew it ploughed but by Mrs. Waller: he knoweth the grounds in Mrs. Waller's occupation in Roydon, extending to Shepherd's Hill, with all Roydon Lyings, and so to Skegney Fen, and thence to Roydon Shrubbs, and so to Eleven Herne, called Roydon Common; and saith in both these places last bounded in Roydon, the warreners used like liberty as before in Congham nine acres and Lyings; and paid tithe conies to the parson of Roydon; that in Wyveling grounds used the like liberty as in any other part of the warren, without any interruption, until now of late years; he depoleth the same of South Wootton grounds, and of Great Cromer's close, and Little Cromer's close, both which lie in Rising.

The church of Rising is an ancient pile, built in a conventual manner, with a tower between the body of it and the chancel, which last is now in ruins, the walls only of part of it being standing; also a south cross isle joining to the tower, which is entirely in ruins. The west end is adorned with antique carving and small arches; in the tower are three bells, but one is split; the roof of the church is flat, covered with lead, long but narrow, and is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

There are no inscriptions in the church.

In the porch was a grave-stone, with part of an inscription, viz. *Isabellæ Reginae*, in memory no doubt of some of that queen's servants, or retinue, which induced some persons to fancy that she herself was here buried.

It pays no procurations, only synodals; being exempt from all episcopal jurisdiction, and archidiaconal,

nal, except induction by the archdeacon of Norwich, and the patronage is in the lord of the manor. The rector has the probate of wills, not as rector, but as commissary, nominated by the lord of the manor, derived as 'tis said from a Norman custom, rather claimed by the lord, in right of his castle.

CONGHAM. That is, a ham or dwelling by the river Cong, as called by the antient Britons; thus Congleton also, a town in Cheshire.

CONGHAM MANOR. After various descents this manor came to the Pastons, and John Paston, son and heir of William Paston, in 1446 released to Thomas Daniel, esq. and his heirs, all his right herein; the said Thomas presented as lord in 1448, and in 1475. Henry Wodehouse presented as lord, and sir Edmund Wodehouse in 1479; after this sir Henry Colet in 1482 and 1487, probably as a trustee or mortgagee, (he was a citizen and lord mayor of London) for in 1504, and 1522, sir Thomas Wodehouse was lord and patron; and in the 31st of Hen. VIII. this manor was conveyed by Thomas Wodehouse, esq. to H. Jordon, gent. who presented in 1552; and from him to Humphry Bastard, who was lord in 1580. Humphry, in the 26th of Elizabeth, released to William Bladwell, of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, all his right herein; but in 1595 Henry Spelman, esq. was lord and patron, and afterwards his son, sir Henry Spelman, who was born here, a gentleman of eminent worth and fame at this day, for his learning and knowledge in antiquity; as appears from his works that are published by Dr. Gibson, bishop of London, with his life, &c.

He was son of Henry Spelman, esq. of this town, by Frances, his first wife, daughter of William Saunders,

ders, of Ewell in Surry, esq. second son of sir John Spelman, knight, of Narborough, second judge of the king's bench, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Henry Frowick, of Gunnersbury in Middlesex. Sir Henry, by his wife Eleanor, eldest daughter and co-heir of John L'Estrange, of Sedgeford in Norfolk, had sir John Spelman, his son and heir, and Clement Spelman, his second son, a curfitor baron, &c. —Sir John, his eldest son, married Ann, daughter of sir John Townshend, of Rainham in Norfolk; was educated at Cambridge, (probably in Trinity college, where his father was a student) and wrote several learned treatises, as may be seen in Wood's Ath. Ox. vol. 2; and when king Charles I. retired to Oxford about 1642, he followed him, died there in Brazen Nose college, of the camp disease, July 24, and was buried on the 26th of the said month, 1643, in the church of St. Mary, at Oxford, leaving this character, that he was

*Vir acerrimi judicii, summi ingenii, et probatissimæ
morum suavitatis.*

In 1638 sir John presented to the church of St. Andrew, as lord and patron; and in 1674 Roger Spelman, esq. of Holme, who was his eldest son, and had a brother, Charles, who presented in 1684; from whom it came to Charles Spelman, rector of the church of St. Andrew.

After this the manor was conveyed to the Mordaunts, sir Charles Mordaunt, bart. of Maffingham Parva, being the present lord.

RUSTEYN'S and REED-HALL MANOR. This manor was in possession of Henry Spelman, esq. in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Anthony

Anthony Hammond, of Wootton, esq. who married the sister of sir Robert Walpole, first earl of Orford, was lord in 1750. After him Richard Hammond, esq. of Westacre, and the present lord is Anthony Hammond, of Westacre, his nephew.

TATISHALE'S, PETEGAR'S, or BELETER'S. The family of Cromwell, as heirs to Orreby, were capital lords of the fee; and Ralph de Cromwell, lord Tatishale, presented to St. Mary's church in 1391; and in the 3d of Henry IV. Edmund Belzetter alias Belytter, Richard Chappe, and Richard Holditch, held half a fee of the lady Maud Cromwell.

The principal part or fee was, in 1487, in sir Robert Ratclyff, who then presented to the church aforesaid; in 1517, in Thomas Windham, and Robert Drury, and continued in the Windhams several years, and came afterwards to sir Henry Spelman, in whose family it remained.

But though the principal part was thus conveyed, yet a part of the Tatishale manor which was in the Thorps in the reign of Edward I. remained till conveyed by them to the L'Estranges.

Henry L'Estrange, of Hunstanton, esq. died possessed of the manor of Congham, and Massingham Parva, in 1483. John L'Estrange, his third son, died lord in 1517, and by the marriage of Barbara his only daughter, came to Robert Mordaunt, esq. in which family it still remains; sir Charles Mordaunt, bart. being the present lord.—Barbara was his daughter by Margaret, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas L'Estrange, of Walton D'Eivile, in Warwickshire.

This

This manor is called corruptly at this day Petergar's, probably from Beleter, who was lord in Hen. IV's time.

The church of St. Andrew is a single pile, covered with lead, and has a tower four-square, embattled, and two bells. On the north side is a chapel, covered with tile; on the north wall of it is this inscription:

Paterno jussu Henri, et Johs. Spelman, milit. alam hanc pie instituit Rogs. Spelman, absolvit autem Carolus Spelm. hujus eccles. tandem rector, Ao. Dni. 1686.

The chancel is tiled; and within the rails of the communion table lie several marble gravestones:

H. S. E. Carolus Squire A. M. scholæ Lennensis p. annos novem preceptor celebris, ecclesiæ hujus et de Maf-singham Pa. rector dignissimus, sacerdos doctus, pius, probus, vir varia et perpolitâ eruditione ornatus, historicis et humanioribus in literis maxime versatus, amicus plane simplex, comes jucundissimus, desideratissimus obt. 20 Aug. 1752, ætat. 56. Marito optimo, uxor mœrens posuit.

On one with a brass plate, *Hic requiescunt Henricus Spelman, armiger, et Francisca, uxor ejus filia Gu-lieli. Saunder, armigi. qui habuerunt exitum inter eos clarissimum doctissimumq; virum Hen. Spelman, militem, Erasmus Sp. generosum, et Elizab. filiam; diēloq. Henrico filio nati fuerunt p. Elianoram Le Strange uxor ejus unam filiarum et coheredum Johan Le Strange, armigeri, 4 filii & 4 filia, viz. Johs. Spelm. miles, qui duxit in uxorem Annam, filiam unicam Joh. Townsend, militis, Henr. et Francis. Spelman qui obierunt in vita patris sine exitu, et Clem. Spelm. qui duxit in uxorem*
Martham

Martham Mason, unam filiarum et cohered. Francisci Mason, armigi. et Dorothea nupta Rano. Whitfeld, militi, uni servientum Dni. Caroli Regis ad legem, Anna nupta Tho. More, armigero, Kath. nupta Robo. Ranzworth, armigero, et Alicia nupta Johi. Smith, generoso; dictus Henr. Spel. avus obt. 7 Oct. 1581, dicta Francisca ava, 15 Oct. 1622.—Below this, *Here also lies the body of Roger Spelm. Esq; son and heir of the abovenamed Sir John Spel. knight, who married the daughter and heiress of Robert Strutt, of Lincoln's-Inn, Esq; and died Novr. 27, 1678.* On the brass the arms of Spelman; fable, platee, between two flaunches, argent, impaling, fable, a chevron, ermine, between three bulis heads, argent, Sanders.

One *In memory of Charles Spelman, son of Roger Spelm. Esq; who died March 3, 1684; with the arms of Spelman.*

Another *For Barbara, reliēt of Henry Mordaunt, Esq; who died Decr. 25, 1690.*

On one with a brass plate *Hic et hac pro tempore quiescunt reliquæ Tho. Bendish Rici. de Effex, armigeri, et Rici. Barb. Edwi Thomæ liber. quorum ossibus et memoriæ Elizabetha Dudleyorum prosapia mærens reliēta P. E. obt. Junii 13 Ao. Dni 1632 ætat. suæ 33.*

On the south side of the chancel, a gravestone with the arms of Mordaunt, impaling L'Estrange, *In memory of L'Strange Mordant, son of Henry Mordant, a grandson of Sir L'Strange Mordant of Norff. bt. by Barbara his wife, daughter of Richd. Catlyn, Esq; he had issue Henry and a daughter Barbara, and died Decr. 4, in the 63d year of his age, 1691, here also lieth Barbara his reliēt, who died Apr. 4, 1729, aged 86.*

In

In the church yard a monument *In memory of Richd. son of Rd. Catlyn, Esq; of Kirby Cane, in Norff. who died July 12, 1711, born May 8, 1636, and was one of the society of Lincoln's Inn; with the arms of Catlyn.*

The present rector is the Rev. Edmund Nelson. His predecessor was the Rev. Charles Squire, master of the free grammar school at Lynn, and son of Benjamin Squire, formerly rector of Great Massingham. A man of learning, and a polite scholar, and whose character is described with as much truth as elegance in the epitaph upon his stone in Congham church.—(see p. 117.)

There were formerly three churches, Congham, Congham St. Andrew, and Congham All Saints.

This rectory was consolidated to Congham St. Andrew, in 1684; the church is dilapidated, the rector receives all the tithes of the three Conghams, and pays 20*l.* per ann. to the impropriator of All Saints.

DERSINGHAM. The town takes its name from Der, or Dur, a British word, signifying water, as Derby, Dereham, Durham, &c. and the Saxon words Ing, a meadow, and Ham, a dwelling, all which answer to its scite.

PAKENHAM MANOR. In the 3*d* of Henry VII. sir John Windham granted by fine the manor of Pakenham-hall, to John Fox and Catherine his wife, for the use of John Fox his son; and William Rogers had an interest herein, and held it *in capite*, in the 1*st* of queen Mary, and gave it, as is said, by his last will to the poor of Norwich; and before
this,

this, in 1425, John Church, of Baffingbourn, esq. and Joan his wife, confirmed to Henry Walpole, of Houghton, and William Yelverton, gent. the manor of Pakenham in Derfingham; which came to them by the death of William Adderton, esq. her father, and Joan his wife.

Afterwards it came to the Cobbes of Sandringham, who were lords in the 7th of Elizabeth, and to the Hostes, Dixon Hoste, esq. son of Theodore Hoste, esq. second son of James Hoste, esq. of Sandringham, is the present lord, and also of Snaringhall and has the lete of the town.

BINHAM PRIORY MANOR. Peter de Valoins, on his foundation of this priory, when he gave lands and two parts of his tithe to it, gave rise to this lordship, to which gift Hugh de Derfingham, and Picotus his brother, were witnesses.

Christiana de Mandeville, countess of Essex, for the souls health of William de Mandeville, earl of Essex, and of Reymund de Burgo, her late husband, gave 40s. rent per ann. in land and heath, with certain homages, &c. and she demised to perpetual farm, a capital messuage, with sixty acres of land here, to the priory; the prior agreeing to pay seventeen marks per ann. to the chaplains of St. Nicholas, in the court of Shering, in Essex, where she then lived. Edward I. granted licence to alien the lands to that chapel which Alexander de Baliol, son of Henry, had granted to Christiana Valoins, his aunt, after the death of the lady Lora, his mother, and Guy his brother, in exchange for lands in Heyham and Walhamstow, in Essex; Alexander's deed is dated at Ware A°. 56th of Henry III. and Dugdale observes, that this lord was one of the coheirs

to Christiana aforesaid, who died about the 22d of Henry III.

William, son of William de Derliam, gave a marsh called Chesholm, and Thomas Lording, of Derfingham, lands. Isabella de Derham held the third part of a fee of Valoins, in Henry III's time.

Richard de Secford, prior of Bingham, and the convent, exchanged lands here with sir Thomas de Gelham, lying near the chapel of St. Andrew in Derfingham: in the deed is an account of eighty-six acres, &c. of land, one hundred and eight of pasture, eight acres, &c. of meadow, demean lands belonging to the prior, with rents and customs, by deed *jans* date; and in the 39th of Edward III. a considerable part of the manor of Pakenham was conveyed to it.

The temporalties of this priory in this town were valued, in 1428, at 4l. 13s. 8d. At the dissolution king Henry VIII. granted it, in his 33d year, to sir Thomas Paston, who had licence to alienate it in his 36th year, to John Rokewood and his heirs; but in the following year, sir Thomas Paston, and Agnes his wife, Richard Heydon, esq. and Nicholas Rokewood, gent. conveyed by fine this manor, with four hundred acres of land, sixty of meadow, two hundred of pasture, six of wood, two hundred of marsh, with liberty of a fold in Derfingham and Ingoldesthorp, with 100s. rent per ann. and the advowson of the vicarage, to Robert Read, gent. who dying February 27, *ao.* 1. Mary, Thomas Read his son succeeded, who had licence 17th of Elizabeth, to alienate a messuage, one hundred and eighty acres of land, with a foldage called Estling Course, to Christopher Walpole, and the manor to Jeffrey Cobbe, esq. and so it

K. came

came to the Hostes; and Dixon Hoste, esq. of Ingoldesthorpe, is the present lord.

GELHAM HALL. So called from a family who held lands of the capital lords, the Valoins, and in ancient deeds are found witnesses to several of their donations.

Sir Thomas de Gelham of this town, had licence to build a free chapel in Derfingham church-yard, in May 1264, and to appoint a master or chaplain, from Adam de Mota, then prior of Binham. John de Gelham had a *quietus*, in the 56th of Henry III. for two years, when he was to take the order of knighthood; and one of the same name was lord in the 9th of Edward II. William de Gelham seems to be the last of that family, and died in the reign of Edward III. when it was divided amongst his daughters and coheirs.

In the 27th of the said king, a fine was levied between sir Richard Walkfare, knight, and John de Repps and Elizabeth, who conveyed to Richard a third part of this manor.

Sir Richard Walkfare, some time before his death, gave his right herein to certain feoffees; and on his death it came to sir Thomas Felton, and the lady Joan his wife. Sir Thomas died possessed of it about the 5th of Richard II. then knight of the garter, and left three daughters and coheirs; Mary, wife of sir Edmund Hengrave; Sibilla, wife of — de Morlay; and Alianore, wife of sir John L'Estrange, of Hunstanton, which sir John L'Estrange and his lady, conveyed to Joan her mother this manor, with those of Ryburgh Magna and Parva, in the 8th of that king, by fine. Soon after this, the lady Catherine

rine Brews, a nun, daughter and heir of sir Thomas de Norwich, had an interest in it.

From the time of Henry VIII. there is no certain account of the descent of this manor, till it came to Jeffrey Cobbe in the 21st of Charles I. and so to the late Theodore Hoste, esq. as heir male to his brother, James Hoste, esq. of Sandringham, and Dixon Hoste, esq. his eldest son, is the present lord.

SHOULDHAM PRIORY MANOR. Christiana countess of Mandeville, gave considerable lands and possessions in this town, to this priory.

At the dissolution it was granted, May 5, in the 36th of Henry VIII. to John Dethick, esq. who in the 38th had licence to alien it to John Pell and his heirs; and by an inquisition taken at Lynn, October 8, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, on the death of John Pell, gent. of Derfingham, who died April 4, in the said year, he was found to die seised of it, held by the twentieth part of a fee; and that of Brookhall, held of the hundred of Freebridge, by fealty, and 12d. rent per ann. with six messuages, three hundred and twenty acres of land, one hundred and twenty of meadow, forty of pasture, fifty of furze and heath, in Derfingham, Shernbourne, and Ingoldesthorpe, held of the manor of Pakenham-Hall, by 3d. rent and fealty; and John was his son and heir by Margaret his wife.

The aforesaid John Pell, gent. by his will, dated September 16, 1554, requires to be buried in the church of Derfingham. John his son and heir married Margaret, daughter and heir of William Overend, esq. and dying in 1607, left William Pell, esq. his eldest son, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Wil-

liam Drury, of Fincham, esq. his first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of — Richers, of Swannington; Jeffrey Pell, his brother, married Catherine, daughter of Edward Read, of East Rudham: there was also another brother, Valentine, an attorney at Lynn, who died in 1623. Jeffrey Pell died in 1615, and left issue John Pell, esq. who married Ursula, daughter of — Gawfell, of Watlington, esq. by whom, as some say, he had fir Valentine Pell, &c. others made Valentine to be son of Jeffrey, who dying in 1658, left by Barbara his wife, daughter of fir James Calthorpe, John Pell, his son and heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Pert, of Mountneys in Essex, who died without issue; and captain William Pell, who married Ann, daughter of John Drury, of Holt-House in Leziate, by Lynn, by whom he had John Pell, esq. who married Ann, daughter of Thomas Wood, of Bracon-ash in Norfolk, who died 1686, without issue; and Valentine Pell, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Lane, of Walsingham, and on his death, *sans* issue, gave this lordship by will, to Robert Walpole, esq. father of fir Robert Walpole, knight of the garter, and earl of Orford, whose grandson, the present earl Orford, is lord of it.

There also appears to have been a little lordship called Snaring-Hall, held of Valoins, in the reign of Henry II. by Jeffrey de Snaring; and Philip, one of the family, in the reign of Henry III. held lands here. This manor is now in Dixon Hoste, esq.

WEST HALL MANOR. The antient family of the Derfinghams, who lived here, probably held lands of this lordship.

Sir Robert de Tateshale was found, in the 31st of Edward I. to have held *in capite*, one fee, which the prior of Binham held of him; and in the 33d of the said king, — Pakenham held the third part of a fee of the heirs of sir Robert.

Of sir John de Pakenham, who was steward to the bishop of Ely, there is a remarkable account— That coming into the exchequer court, where the king (Henry III.) himself was sitting, in the 39th of that king, he claimed a monstrous fish taken on the land of one of the bishop's wards, whose ancestors claimed wreck at sea: the king himself made answer, and ordered him to produce the charter by which he claimed, which being done, it was then asked, if the fish was taken on the land or in the sea, and it was answered in the sea, not far from the land, and taken alive, six boats being overturned in the sea before he could be caught: then the king replied, that since it was acknowledged that the fish was taken alive in the sea, it could not be wreck, and he would further consider of it; and the cause was adjourned to the parliament,

We mention this, as it contains some things worthy of our observation. First, that the king himself sat in the exchequer at this time, asked questions, gave answers and judgment; secondly, that no person could claim wreck but by charter; and thirdly, that the cause was adjourned to the parliament: quere may be made, if this word parliament occurs in any record before this time.

In records before this, and till the reign of Edw. I. the word was *Concilium et Magnum Concilium*; but Matt. Paris says, this king called *Parliamentum Generalissimum*, ao. 30. p. 696.

In the reign of Henry VIII. this manor was held by sir Thomas Paston, from which time no account till it came to the Cobbes, and so to the Hostes, and Dixon Hoste, esq. is the present lord.

BROOK HALL or OLD HALL. The family of Brokedish were antiently lords of this, under the Tatehales. Thomas de Brokedish possessed it in the beginning of king Henry III's reign; and in the 31st of that king, Richard le Butler had the custody of lands here, belonging to Stephen de Brokedish.

This manor was granted afterwards to sir William Capel, lord mayor of London, and ancestor to the earl of Essex, who died seized of it November 8, *ao.* 7th of Henry VIII. and sir Giles Capel was his son and heir; he conveyed it, in the 32d of the said king, to John Pell, gent. by fine, in which family it continued as in Shouldham priory manor, till left to the Walpoles, the earl of Orford being the present lord.

The church of Derfingham was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and was at first a rectory,

On the dissolution of the priory of Binham it was granted to the see of Norwich, where the impropriation of the great tithes remain; the present countess of Orford has a lease of them from the bishop, paying 20*l.* a year out of it to the vicar of Derfingham, which was settled for ever by bishop Reynolds, formerly bishop of this diocese.

The advowson of the vicarage is in Dixon Hoste, esq. the present patron.

The

The church is a very large pile of flint, boulder, &c. as most of the churches of Norfolk are, with a large chancel; the nave and two isles covered with lead, and the chancel with tile. At the west end of the nave is a strong four-square tower, with five bells, on that a lantern, with a bell, and a little shaft covered with lead.

On the south side of the chancel is a mural monument, with the arms of Pell, in a lozenge, ermin, on a canton azure, a pelican vulning itself, or, impaling, p. pale, azure and gules, three saltires, argent; Lane,

Beneath in a vault rest the remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Pell, lady of Booter's-hall manour, at Cranworth, in this county, widow, and reliēt of Valentine Pell, Esq; grandson of Sir Valentine Pell, Kt. the only daughter and heiress of Isaac Lane, late of Walsingham, Gent.: a lady worthy of imitation, adorned with all the ornaments of vertue, her person and excellent qualifications rendered her greatly esteemed by all that had the happiness of her acquaintance. Her great charity in her life and at her death, will cause her name to be had in everlasting remembrance, she departed this life worthily lamented, the 22d of May in the year of our Lord 1732, to whose pious and lasting memory, Mrs. Margaret Hodgson, her dearly beloved friend and executrix, dedicated this monument. She gave 100l. to this parish, which is laid out for land in the parish, and given to the poor in bread and coals, and the same sum to South Creak, where her father had gave the like sum.

Another mural monument with the arms of Hodgson, in a lozenge—gules, three falcons, in a bordure.

This monument is erected to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Hodgson, late of Booter's-hall, at Cranworth in this county, where she departed this life the 2d of Dec. 1743, aged 67 years, and according to her own desire lies interred in the same vault with Mrs. Eliz. Pell. She gave 5l. per ann. to this parish, to the churchwardens and overseers, to take care of the vault and monuments, and keep them clean, and in repair, and what overplus annually to be distributed to objects of charity living in the said parish, and charged the estate in Cranworth with it.

On an altar tomb, at the east end of the south isle,

Memoriæ Sacrum—

Hic jacet Johannes Pell de Darfingham, armiger, quondam major Linne Regis, qui uxorem duxit Margaretam, filiam unicam Gulielmi Overend, armigeri, annos 61 feliciter una vixerunt, sex filios et tres filias inter se habuerunt. Ille vero cum annos 80 compleverat quinto die Februarij, A°. Dni. 1607, matura senectute, mortem obiit et octavo die ejusdem mensis corpus schulchro condebatur.

An atchievement, *In memory of the late wife of the late Dr. Kerrich*, and these arms, fable, on a pile argent, a caltrap of the first, Kerrich, and in an escutcheon of pretence, a bugle horn, fable, stringed gules, in base, a chevron of the second, and in chief indented of the third, Postlethwait. She was daughter of archdeacon Postlethwait: her husband, the Rev. Samuel Kerrich, D. D. was many years vicar of Derfingham; a clergyman much respected for his learning and amiable qualities. The present vicar is the Rev. Mr. Hey, fellow of Magdalen college, Cambridge.

John

*John Pell, Esq. died 1607.—William, his eldest son died 1635.—John Pell, nephew of William, 16**.—Sir Valentine Pell died in 1658.—John Pell, Esq. eldest son of Sir Valentine, 1649.*

On his grave-stone, Pell impaling ———, on a bend, three mascles, died s. p.

John Pell, Esq. his son, died 1686.—Valentine Pell, Esq. brother of John, died in 1690, and gave his manor here to Robert Walpole, Esq. of Houghton.—Eliz. Pell died in 1732.

FLITCHAM, or Pliceham, Plicham and Flicham, as it is wrote in Doomſday-book, taking its name not from Felix, biſhop of the Eaſt Angles, (as ſome have conceived) but from its ſcite, it not being the cuſtom of the Saxons to give names to towns from their lords, or any perſon; the ground here, as Spelman obſerves, abounds with ſprings and water; the priory was ſited on this account, *St. Mary de Fontibus*, at the ſprings; *Quod ab oriente fontes oſtendit aprico interdum meatu, interdum ſubterraneo ludentes*; therefore, from theſe ſweet ices, or waters, it takes its name; thus Flixton in Suffolk, &c. This is alſo called Fliceſwell in Doomſday-book.

The chief manor, and the greateſt part of this town, was granted to Roger Bigot, anceſtor of the earls of Norfolk.

Fulk de Beaufoe, who was lord in the reign of Henry II. dying without iſſue male, left four daughters and coheirs; Emme, who married Gilbert de Norfolk; Agatha, who married fir Robert Aguillon; Joan, wife of Thomas de Ingaldeſthorp, and Margery, wife of Robert Scales. The two firſt of theſe had only an intereſt in this town.

Agatha,

Agatha, by sir Robert Aguillon, left also four daughters and coheirs, between whom her moiety was divided; Agatha, wife of sir Adam de Cockfield; Isabel, of Luke de Poynings; Margery, of Jordan de Sackville, and after of sir Giles de Argenton; and Joan, of sir Ralph Fitz-Bernard.

POINING'S MANOR came to sir Luke de Poynings, on his marriage with Isabel, daughter and heir of Aguillon; and about the end of the reign of Henry III. Thomas de Poynings, Andrew de Sackville, Walter de Barnardeston, and John de Rocheford, were found to hold in this town and Appleton, two fees of the honour of Arundel; and in the 8th of Edward I. a fine was levied between Luke de Poynings and Roger de Somercotes, and Maud his wife, relict of — Poynings, father of Luke, as we take it, whereby Luke granted them the manor of Fritcham, for the life of Maud, with an annuity of one hundred shillings.

It continued in the family of the Poynings to the reign of Henry III. it was then demised to the family of Wodehouse, where it remained till the reign of Henry VI.

In Henry VIII. it was conveyed to sir William Holles, lord mayor of London, ancestor of the Holles, dukes of Newcastle, who left it to his son Thomas.

Sir Thomas, in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, passed it by fine to Henry Ward, with the lordship of Barneston, or Barnardiston, for 2900l. but his lady being jointured therein, and her father, Richard Payne, not agreeing to it, it came into that family, and from them to Thomas duke of Norfolk, before

before his attainder in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Philip earl of Arundel, his son and heir, demised it, in the 28th of that queen, to Richard Hovell, of Flitcham, gent. Flitcham house, late the scite of the priory, with all the appurtenances, and the manors called Poynings's, Cockfield's, Barnardiston's, East-hall, and Snoring, the lands, fold-courses, water-mills, &c. thereto belonging, in the tenure of the said Hovell, for fifteen years, at the annual rent of 257l. 6s. 8d. he paying also to the bishop of Norwich 6s. 8d. rent; to the dean and chapter 3s. 4d. and to the archdeacon 9s. 7d. *ob.* per ann. also to provide a curate for the church of Flitcham.

This earl being found guilty of high treason, and dying a prisoner in the tower of London, it came to the crown, and king James I. on February 14, in his first year, granted the priory house, and all the aforesaid manors, with the impropriated rectory, to Richard Locksmith and Robert Bolleyn, they paying 170l. 11s. 5d. fee-farm rent per ann. In his 6th year, it was granted, on February 12, to Henry Beck, Robert Bolleyn, &c. on the request of sir Christopher Hatton. After this the said king gave it to the earl of Suffolk, in fee-farm, and the lord chief justice Coke purchased it of him, and the fee-farm rent of the crown, and so it descended to Thomas Coke, the late earl of Leicester, who entailed it on his nephew, Wenman Roberts Coke, esq. of Longford in Derbyshire.

SACKVILLE'S MANOR. Jordan de Sackville, who married Margery, one of the daughters and coheirs of sir Robert Aguillon, gave name to it; his son Andrew occurs lord in the 28th of Edward I.

In the 21st of Henry VI. John Spendlove, and Margaret his wife, and John, son and heir of Adam Snoring, conveyed it by fine to John Bertram, of Saxingham, by Holt, in Norfolk, who by his will, on July 15, 1461, devised it to John his second son for life, with the advowson, or until he should be preferred to a greater benefice ecclesiastical, and then to go to the priory of Walsingham; and thus it was afterwards partly united to the manor of Snoring in this town, and part came to sir Richard Williams, and so to sir William Holles, and the late earl of Leicester, as aforesaid.

There are three other manors in this town, called,

COCKFILLD'S,

BARNARDISTON'S, and

SNORING MANOR:

All, except the last, in possession of the Holkham family, and purchased by lord chief justice Coke.

SNORING MANOR. Besides the lordships above specified, Emma de Beaufoe, daughter and coheir of Fulk de Beaufoe, and sister of Agatha, had her right or part of a moiety in this town. She married Gilbert de Norfolk, who had a patent, in the 1st year of king John, to enjoy all her inheritance for life, and dying soon after without issue, she obtained for 600 marks a licence not to be distrained to marry, and to enjoy all her own inheritance, and also to have her dower in that of her husband.

Emma had a niece, Damietta, on whom she settled great part of this lordship, and married first, Thomas Avenel, by whom she had a son, Reginald, who died without issue.

Her

Her second husband was Peter de Fuklon, by whom she had a son, Richard.

Damietta, in her widowhood, gave to the prior, &c. of Walsingham in Norfolk, thirty acres of land, with half a fold-course in this town; and her aunt Emma gave two acres of land, 28d. rent per ann. which Thomas Avenel was to pay her for lands she granted him on his marriage.

This went by the name of Snoring manor in the reign of Edward IV. and on the dissolution of Walsingham priory, was granted June 19, anno 6th of Edward VI. to Thomas (Thurleby) bishop of Norwich, and his successors, and so continues.

To those who search truly and deeply into sacred antiquity, it will frequently appear how the church of Rome has for many centuries past, even in the Saxon times, imposed on the credulity, the weakness and ignorance of mankind, by their *piæ fraudes*, inventions, and traditions, false and spurious to the last degree, as will appear in the following instance.

Felix, who is said to be first Christian bishop of the East Angles, to have his seat at Dunwich in Suffolk, and to have died in or about the year 647, is made by the church of Rome to be the founder of this town, to give name to it, to have converted these parts, and to have erected the first Christian church at Babingley, (a town adjoining to Flitcham) and that he was assisted in this building, &c. by Thoke, a powerful man, lord of many townships in the neighbourhood, whom he had made a convert to the Christian faith.

In answer to this, it is to be observed, that all towns in the times of the Britons, (many centuries before the time of bishop Felix) took their names from their scite, as this did from 'the flices, that is, the fleet ices, springs, and ouziness of its soil, as we have already observed. Many of these ancient British and old Saxon names were changed by the Romish church, for the names of their fictitious saints; thus Slepe in Huntingdonshire was changed and called St. Ives; thus Eynsbury was called St. Neots: thus old Verulam was changed to St. Alban's, and thus Bevedericksworth to St. Edmund's Bury. As for Thoke, said to be a convert of St. Felix, he was lord of West Walton, Harpley, Gressingham, Sculthorpe, Burnham Thorpe, and many other towns; was a noble Saxon lord, or thane, in king Edward's reign, and deprived of all on the conquest, as the book of Doomſday will testify.

The church of Flitcham consists of a nave, a south isle, with a porch, and a square tower in which hangs one bell, and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary; there has been a chancel and a north isle, now in ruins; the south isle is covered with lead, and the nave and the porch are tiled.

At the west end of the nave lies a black marble grave-stone, with the arms of Bendish; argent, a chevron, between three rams heads, erazed, azure, attired, or. *Sub hoc lapide positum est corpus Francisci Bendysh, generosi, in adversis viri insigni patientia, in amicos, non minore benignitate, qui expiravit 7 die Novemb. Ao. Dni. 1647, etat. 63; Plurimis quondam oppressus, jam ærumnis, oppressionibus, malis omnibus dormit securus; beatissimam expectans resurrectionem.*

This church was anciently a rectory.

Afterwards,

Afterwards, the rectory was appropriated to the priory here, and a vicarage settled, and that was united and consolidated to the rectory, for which the prior had a patent in the 17th of Richard II. Upon this the cure was probably served by one of the canons here; and on the dissolution it was granted, with the priory, &c. to Edward lord Clinton, January 9, in the 30th of Henry VIII. and soon after to Richard Williams, alias Cromwell, who in the next year alienated it to sir William Holles, and so passed as the manor of Poynings, and is an impropriation belonging to the late earl of Leicester, and from him it came, after the decease of his countess in 1775, to his nephew Wenman Roberts Coke, esq.

It is now a donative of 20l. a year, paid by the tenant of the abbey farm to the officiating clergyman.—*Tempora mutantur.*

FLITCHAM PRIORY. This priory was subordinate to the priory of Walsingham. It was founded in the reign of Henry III. by sir Robert Aguillon, probably ancestor of the dukes d'Aquillon in France. It was surrendered to Henry VIII. the same day with that of Walsingham, August 4, 1539: in which year, or soon after, six hundred and forty-five monasteries, ninety colleges, and two thousand three hundred and seventy-four chapels were suppressed and surrendered to the king.

Some time after the suppression this priory came to sir Thomas Holles, who was taken up by the sheriff of Norfolk in execution for debt, and his goods sold. Afterwards it came to the duke of Norfolk, who was attainted and beheaded. It then reverted to the crown, and king James gave the abbey lands and estate, and scite of the priory, to Thomas Howard, earl

earl of Suffolk, who was tried in the Star-chamber, turned out of his office as treasurer, and suffered great affliction by the attainder of his daughter, the countess of Somerset. The lord chief justice Coke bought the abbey and the abbey lands of this earl, and soon after he was disgraced and forbid the court, and was unhappy during the remainder of his life. There seems to have been a fatality that hung over the heads of all those who were too busy in church lands, and over the heads of their successors; and this has been remarked by many historians. Instances might be produced at this day in many families, which confirm the truth of the historian's observation.

This abbey, now a farm, containing about eleven hundred acres of land, many of the old walls still remaining, which shew the priory to have been large and extensive, descended to the late earl of Leicester, and his only son, lord Coke, dying without issue, lord Leicester entailed it, with the abbey of Castle-acre, and many other church revenues, upon Wenman Roberts Coke, esq. who lived to enjoy the great acquisitions of lord chief justice Coke from the church but one year, acceding to them in 1775, and dying in 1776.

This abbey of Flitcham was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was called also St. Mary de Fontibus, because it stood near some fountains and springs, which sometimes flowed plentifully, and at other times did not appear. From these springs a stream arises, that gliding through the meadows, where the remains of this once venerable abbey still exist in the unhallowed form of barns and stables, passes on to Hillington, and running westward, winds along the park of sir Martin Folkes, bart. and falls into the

the channel near Rising castle, and thence empties itself into the sea.

The estate at Flitcham, in the Holkham family, amounts to three thousand acres of land and upwards, the whole property of the town (excepting a small part belonging to sir Martin Folkes, bart.) having been from time to time purchased into that family.

In this parish was the remarkable hill or tumulus; where, in the Saxon age, the hundred court was held in the time of William Rufus, in order to decide a controversy about lands at Holme, who issued out a commission to H. his chamberlain, to call together three hundreds and an half at this place, called Flicceham Burch. It is upon an hill about a mile above the town of Flitcham, in the hundred of Freebridge citra Lenne, on the west side of the way, leading from that town to Shernbourne, being a square piece of ground about an acre, ditched about with an old large ditch, about eight miles from Holme, where the lands lay which were then claimed by the abbot of Ramsey.

GAYTON. The town takes its names from Guy, a British word, and occurs frequently for the name of rivers, or waters.

It is probable that soon after the survey, William de Scohies granted it to the abbey of St. Stephen's, Westminster, with the church of Gayton, which was appropriated to the priory of Well, and the patronage of the vicarage was in the priory.

Thomas Cobbe, son and heir of Jeffrey, had livery of the manor of Gayton, alias Egerton, with
L the

the appurtenances, one messuage, and a fold-course, in Gayton Thorpe, Grimston, and East Winch, in the 6th of queen Elizabeth, held of the said queen, as of the castle of Dover; also the manors of Wykenhale, Brecham's, and Person's.

It appears by an inquisition taken the 22d of April, in the 1st of Edward VI. at the castle of Norwich, that his father Jeffrey died May 18, 1544, possessed of the same manors, Gayton and Egerton, held of Dover castle, paying ten shillings rent per ann. Wykenhale, Brecham and Person's manors, held of the manor of Grimston, paying twelve shillings per ann. and that Thomas his son and heir was of the age of five years, by Margaret his wife, daughter of Thomas Thoresby, esq. and that Ralph Gayton was Jeffrey's great grandfather; this Thomas is said to die without issue; and William Cobbe (his brother) had livery of the aforesaid manors about the 22d of the said queen.

From the time of queen Elizabeth the proprietors are very uncertain, but it seems as if it remained for many years in the family of the Cobbes of Sandringham.

Richard Jackson, esq. of Weasenham, one of his majesty's council learned in the law, has a considerable property in Gayton at present.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. William de Warren, son of Roger, confirmed all the donations of his father, grandfather, and of Walter his uncle, to the monks of Acra; and himself gave to them eleven shillings and four-pence rent in land in Gayton.

There

There was an agreement between the abbot and convent of St. Stephen, of Caen in Normandy, on one part, and the prior and convent of Castle-acre, on the other, for all the tithes belonging to the fee of the earl Warren in the village of Gayton, which belonged to Castle-acre priory; that the abbot of St. Stephen's, and his successors, should hold all the said tithes, paying five marks of good sterling per ann. and sealed with the seals of both convents.

WENDLING ABBOT'S MANOR. The abbot of Wendling had a lordship. On the dissolution of the religious houses it came to the crown, and remained there some time; and was granted by queen Elizabeth, on the 10th of August, in her 13th year, to Thomas Jennyns and Edward Forth, gent. by the name of Gayton manor, alias Gayton Abbots, with concealed lands belonging to it in Tilney, Iffington, Clenchwarton, Walpole, and Emneth; and king James I. on January 9, in his 8th year, granted it, for the sum of 26l. 17s. 3d. with all the wood and underwood, valued at 3l. 16s. 9d. late the possessions of Wendling abbey, to sir Edmund Mundeford, and he, on the 20th of July, in the 16th of the said king, conveyed it to Sampson Hopes, clerk.

After various successions, it came to the family of the Longes in Suffolk, who possessed it in 1700; then it passed to Robert Jacomb, esq. formerly member of parliament for Thetford.

There are two other manors,

COKESFORD PRIORY, and

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR.

Of the regular descent of which very little is known with certainty.

This town lies east of Lynn, in the road to Norwich, at the distance of six miles: to this town is a turnpike road from Lynn, which ends at the seven mile stone.

The church is a regular pile, has a nave, a north and south isle covered with lead, and a four-square tower with three bells; the chancel is covered with tiles.

It is a vicarage, and the patronage is in the fee of Norwich.

GAYTON THORPE. A moiety of the advowson of this church was appropriated by sir Thomas de Hastings, steward to king Henry II. to the abbey of West Dereham.

At the dissolution it was granted to Thomas Mildmay, esq. February 26, *ao.* 4, Edward VI. and after came to sir Edward Barkham, bart. and by the marriage of the heiress, to the Yallops.

In 1761 it was conveyed to Philip Cafe, esq. of Lynn, by Edward Spelman, esq. of High House, Westacre.

Philip Cafe, esq. the present mayor of Lynn, for the third time, having served that office twice before with great reputation, and particularly in the time of the Scotch rebellion against one of the best of kings, his late majesty, George II. is the present lord of this manor.

It was formerly in the family of the Thorpes, which probably gave name to the town, the different lords of manors, sometimes giving their own
name

name to a town, and sometimes taking their name from it.

The church of Gayton Thorpe is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a single antient pile, covered with lead, has a round tower, at the west end, (with two bells) and is covered with a cap.

On a grave-stone, with the arms of Wall, argent, on a cross, sable, five lioncels, rampant, or, impaling Barkham.—*In spe beatæ resurrectionis, hic jacet Lucia relicta Francisci Wall, armigeri, filia Edwardi Barkham, de Tottenham High Cross, in comit. Middlesexiæ, militis et baronetti, quæ obt. 30 die Junij, Ao. Dni. 1681.*

Also on one—*Here lieth the body of Judith Swift, daughter of Dr. Beckham, who departed this life 1st of January, 1718, aged 42 years.*

In charissimorum parentum memoriam Edwardus Beckham, filius mærens, D. C.—H. S. E. Edw. Beckham, S. T. P. ecclesiarum de Gayton Thorp, et de South Pickenham, rector, qui obt. Apr. die 1^o ao. ætatis 76, Dni M. D. CCXIV. Juxta positæ sunt exuviæ Janæ conjugis dicti Edwardi dilectissimæ, quæ obt. die post maritum quarto. Ao. ætatis LIX.

In 1755 the Rev. George William Lemon, a man of learning, and late head master of the free school at Norwich, was presented to this church by the late Edward Spelman, esq. whom he assisted during many years in his studies. The late Edward Spelman, esq. was a gentleman well known in the literary world by his writings; he built High House at Westacre, now the property of Anthony Hammond, esq. where he resided many years: he was an excel-

lent and indefatigable magistrate, and was thoroughly versed in the laws of this realm, and the policy of it; on his decease the seat and estate at High House, came by purchase to the late Richard Hammond, esq. and from him by his will, to the present Anthony Hammond, esq. of High House, Westacre,

GAYWOOD is a village adjoining and within a mile of the borough of Lynn Regis, and is a kind of suburb to that town.

This town and lordship belonged to the bishops of the East Angles, in the time of the Saxons, and was given by some of their kings. In the reign of king William I. William (Beaufoe) bishop of Thetford, held it in right of that see; and Almar bishop of Elmham, held it in king Edward the Confessor's time, by the same right: this Almar was brother to Stigend, and succeeded him in this see, on his translation to Winchester, in 1047.

In the 24th year of Henry II. the bishop of Norwich was found to hold this lordship, with Lynn, *in capite*; and in the 34th of that king, he would not suffer the king's bailiff or coroner to enter into it, having a coroner of his own; and in the following year, had a charter of free warren here, &c.

William de Raleigh, bishop, made a park here, and a warren.

In the 3d of Edward I, the bishop of Norwich was found to have the return of all writs, a gallows, assise of bread and beer, and other royalties; and in the 9th year of that king, he was presented, on account of his water-mill here having drowned the high way, to the damage of the people passing by.

Henry

Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, had licence in the 11th of king Richard II. to embattle his palaces of Gaywood and North Elmham.

It continued in the fee of Norwich till it was granted by an act of parliament, February 4, in the 27th year of Henry VIII. to the crown, with other of the bishop's manors and barony, by way of exchange for the abbey manors and lands belonging to St. Bennet of Holme.

William Rugg, the last abbot there, being nominated bishop of Norwich, this manor being thus in the crown, it was conveyed away on January 1, in the 36th of king Henry VIII. under the great seal of England, having the king's mark at the top, and underneath signed by the duke of Norfolk, lord Russell, lord Rich, Richard Southwell and Walter, officers of the court of Augmentation, by way of exchange for other lands, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, for life, without impeachment of waste; remainder to Henry earl of Surry, his son and heir, and the lady Frances his wife, and their heirs, to be held by the twentieth part of a fee, and the rent of 4l, 18s. per ann. payable at St. Michael, into the court of Augmentation.

Henry earl of Surry, was afterwards attainted in his father's life time, but on his death in the reign of queen Mary, an act passed to confirm it to sir Thomas Howard, knt. son of Henry, late earl of Surry, who being restored also to the dukedom, was beheaded in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth; and it being again in the crown, that queen in her 20th year, by letters patent, dated at Hampton Court, January 15, granted it, with the advowson and demesns, the manors of East and West Rudham, and

the scite of the priory of Coxford in Norfolk, (parts also of the late duke's possessions) to Edward earl of Oxford, who, in her 22d year, had licence to convey this manor of Gaywood, with the advowson, to John Pepys, gent. and he soon after sold it to Thomas Thoresby, of Havelefs-hall in Mintling, esq. in which family it continued till sold by Francis Thoresby, esq. about 1697, to sir Cyril Wyche, knt. of Hockwold-hall in Norfolk.

Sir Cyril Wyche was secretary of state of Ireland in the reign of king William III.

The late sir Cyril Wyche was resident from the court of England to the Hans Towns in Germany and knight of the order of Holstein.

Sir Cyril had a grant in the 10th of William III. for two fairs in the year in this town, on the 11th and 12th of June, and on the 6th and 7th of October, for cattle, and all merchandise.

The church is dedicated to St. Faith, the Virgin and Martyr; it consists of a square steeple of brick, in which hang three bells; a nave, with north and south cross isles, covered with thatch.

It was antiently valued with the vicarage belonging to it, at six marks, and was not visited by the archdeacon, being a peculiar of the bishop of Norwich, and in his patronage and manor: the present value in the king's books is 5l. 13s. 4d. and the patronage has always gone with the lordship.

The Rev. Samuel Beatniffe is the present rector; he succeeded the Rev. Mr. Wright of East Harling, who succeeded the Rev. Dr. Stedman, rector of Denver,

Denver, archdeacon of Norfolk, and prebendary of Canterbury,

On a grave-stone with a brass plate, in the chancel,—*Here lyeth Tho. Hares, a man always peaceable, and religious, ever desirous of doing good, and to his power did it, he died a good old man, full of days and of faith, his soul is returned to God that gave it, and his body thus resteth in hope.*

*Qui fuit eternæ Christus mihi causa salutis,
Exuvijs rursus vestiat ossa meis.
Ejusdem reditu mihi vita, salusq; paratur,
Intaesto tumulto molliter ossa cubent.*

Vixit annos 84, obiit Apr. 13, 1617. Tho. Hares, illius filius, et hujus ecclesiæ rector, deflevit.

One also thus inscribed.—*Hic jacet Tho. Thurlin, S. T. P. S. Joh. coll. Cantabrigiæ præses, hujus ecclesiæ 50 annos rector, vir pietate, doctrina, et animi candore inclytus, beneficij memor, injuriæ obliviosus, octogenarius obt. Aug. 11, 1714.*

GRIMSTON. BRECCLES MANOR: The capital manor in this town was held by Stigand, archbishop of Canterbury, (as a temporal fee) in the reign of the Confessor; but the Conqueror deprived him of it, and gave it to his half brother Odo, bishop of Bayeux in Normandy, and created by him earl of Kent. This Odo held it at the survey, but being in arms against king William II. and taking part with Robert duke of Normandy, the Conqueror's eldest son, in his claim to the crown of England, against his brother king William II. he was deprived of this, and all his other estates in England; and this lordship was granted by that king to William de Albini, ancestor to the earls of Suffex and Arundel.

This

This lordship was held soon after the conquest by a family who took their name on being enfeoffed herein: Godfrey de Grimston (probably lord) was a witness to a deed, *sans* date, of Richard Aguillon, and Ela his wife, to the monks of Castle-acre.

In the 34th of Henry III. a fine was levied between Peter de Kailly and Mary his wife, Ralph, son of Simon le Counte, and Joan his wife, of the moiety of two hundred and thirty-two acres of land in this town, Rudham, Tittleshall, &c. claimed by Peter and Mary, of the inheritance of Roger de Grimston, father of the said Mary and Joan, by Alice his wife, deceased, whose heirs they were, which was then divided between them.

In the 27th of Henry III. Thomas de Grimston held two fees of the honor of Rising, which were assigned to Isabel, widow of Hugh earl of Arundel, for her life; this Thomas was married, but died without issue; and on the death of Agnes his widow, Alice or Elizabeth, daughter of Godfrey de Grimston, his brother, was his heir: she married John de Breccles, who in her right was lord, in the 16th of Edward I, and from him the manor took its name.

In the 17th of Edward I. it was adjudged that Robert de Tatehale (who married one of the sisters and heirs to Hugh, earl of Albany) should have the men and residents of this town, come to his hundred court of Freebridge; but John de Breccles, and Alice his wife, pleaded that they ought to come to his court lete. He was succeeded by Benedict de Breccles his son and heir,

Though

Though this title abovementioned to this lordship is warranted by authentic records, yet Benedict de Breccles derived his right and pedigree very different from this, as appears from an old parchment, wrote in his own time in Latin, and *sans* date, called a Memorandum of the names of the ancestors of John Benedict de Breccles, viz,

Thomas son of Godfrey, son of Aldric a French man, to whom William earl of Suffex gave Grimston, Brunham, (Burnham) Breccles, &c. after whose death, (Thomas's) Peter succeeded, his son and heir, and a knight; after sir Peter, Thomas his son and heir, a knight; then sir Peter, his son and heir, after him; sir Thomas his son and heir; Thomas his son and heir succeeded, who died without issue; and Christian was his sister and heir, who dying without issue, Peter her uncle was her heir; which Peter was brother to sir Thomas, father of Thomas and Christian; which Peter dying without issue, Bartholomew his brother was his heir; he had Alice, his daughter and heir; and from the said Alice, the right descends to Benedict her son and heir, now living.

It is to be observed, that great confusion often arises in pedigrees, &c. from one and the same family's, and often one and the same person's taking different names from the different towns that they (or he) were lords of. An instance of this we have in this family, who were called sometimes De Grimston, and sometimes de Breccles, of both which towns they were lords; and this sir Benedict dying lord of both these towns, in the reign of king Edw. II. was succeeded therein by John de Breccles, his son and heir, who in the 9th of that king appears
to

to be lord; and in the 14th of Edward III. John de Breccles was a witness to a deed.

In the time of sir Benedict abovementioned, we have this account of his lordship from an old parchment roll:—Benedict de Breccles holds *in capite* of the earl of Arundel, the manor of Grimston, with the advowson of the church, and the manor of Brunham, with the advowson of a moiety of the church of St. Mary, of Burnham Westgate, and the manor of Little Breccles, by the service of two knights fees, by the deed of William earl of Arundel; and he hath the manor of Grimston, by the church, with several pieces of land thereto belonging, together with a moor, called Derby Moor, a heath and two water-mills; and there belong to the said manor waif and strays, found within the precincts of Grimston; a bull, and a lete of all his tenants, to be held in the said manor, by the king's bailiff, without any profit to be carried off; and the bailiff of the said Benedict shall bring all amer-ciements of the said lete, by the oath of lawful men, &c. and if the bailiff shall be unwilling to keep the said lete, as it happened in the time of John Breccles, the said lord of the manor to have a brief of the chancellor, to the said bailiffs, to hold the said lete, as they ought; and there belongs to the said manor a profit called Lovebene, to wit, that all residents in Grimston, having horses with a cart, shall work for the lord, for the redeeming of the common of Grimston, one day's journey of barley seed time, and he shall have for his breakfast one penny half-penny; and all keeping cows on the common, shall do a day's work in harvest, and at three o'clock they shall have flesh to eat, and ale to drink, and three loaves every evening; and if they refuse, then it shall be lawful to distrain on the said common,

&c.

&c. But sir Robert de Montalto, the prior of West-acre, the lady De Thony, the prioress of Black-borough, the rector of Grimston, Nicholas Costyn, Nicholas Norman, Agneys Waceneys, Richard Beneyt, the tenants of the messuage of John Spylm, Hubert de Bumstead, Robert de Berton, Walter Oldman, John Skot, sir Ralph le Botiler, Roger Skot, shall not do the day's work in barley feed time, nor the day's in harvest, because their tenants work for them; and likewise that no man sell the common of Grimston to strangers, without leave of the said Benedict, and his heirs; and if any stranger in Congham, or in any village, is willing to have common in Grimston, he shall do the work as the others do.

In 1402 Benedict de Breccles, son of John de Breccles, was lord; soon after, it seems to have been out of this family, in the 25th of Henry VI.

John Paston, son and heir of William Paston, released to Thomas Daniel, esq. all his right in the manor of Grimston, (which we suppose to be this of Breccles) with lands, &c. in Roydon, Well-hall; and in the 28th of the said king a fine was levied between Thomas Daniel, esq. and Henry Wodehouse, esq. of the manor of Grimston, with that of Well-hall, in Gayton, &c. twenty messuages, five hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, five hundred of pasture, twenty of wood, two hundred of moor, and 10l. per ann. rent conveyed to Daniel.

In the 10th of Edw. IV. August 4. John Wodehouse, esq. senior, and Arnold Snoring, confirmed to Edward Wodehouse and James Tyrell, knights, William Tindale, and Richard Southwell, esq. all
their

their manors of Grimston and Roydon, with a fulling-mill in Rising, and all other their lands, tenements, rents, and services in the said towns, with all other profits which they had of the grant of the aforesaid Edward Wodehouse: and sir Thomas Brews, knt. William Tindale, and Richard Holditch, esq. release to John De la Pole, duke of Suffolk, and Edward Wodehouse, knt. in the 15th of the said reign, the manor of Grimston, called Breccles, with the advowson of the church of Grimston, by deed dated April 10.

After this it was possessed by the lord Rochford, brother to Anna Boleyn, queen of England, who being attainted in the year 1536, it came to the crown, and king Edward VI. granted it to sir William Brooke, knt. son and heir to the lord Cobham, on the 26th of June, in his 7th year. Sir William conveyed it for 250l. in the 1st of queen Mary, to William Yelverton, esq. in the 3d of Elizabeth he was lord, and it appears to be part of the jointure of Jane his wife; which William died seised of it August 28, in the 28th of Elizabeth.

Edward Yelverton, gent. his second son, to whom he bequeathed it, kept his court for the manor on Monday May 22, in the 29th of that queen; and in the 31st year of the said reign, Robert Hill, bailiff, accounted for 7l. 3s. *ob.* rent of assise of the free tenants of the manors of Breccles, Blackborough, and Westacre in this town.

In 1521 Edward Yelverton and Nazareth his wife, let this manor to farm. He was a doctor of physic and a popish recusant, and lived at this time at Rougham, and some times at Appleton, &c. and on his obtaining a pardon for his forfeiture on account
of

of his recusancy, granted twenty marks per ann. out of his manor of Breccles, for so long a time as he should not conform to the laws; and on the 12th of April, 1615, he sold to William Bladwell, esq. this manor, with the lete, and those of Morleys, Downham-hall, Costeyns, Westacre, Blackborough, &c. in this town, containing twenty-six messuages, ten tofts, 26 gardens, eight hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, three hundred of pasture, twenty of wood, three thousand of heath and furze, with 5l. rent per ann. and liberty of two folds. This Bladwell was of the family of Bladwell of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, and bore per pale argent and gules, a lion rampant, sable.

Bladwell was lord, and sold it to — Brown, whose widow held it in 1693.

After this William Bagge, esq. was lord, and sold it to sir Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, and his grandson now possesses it.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR. In the reign of Edw. II. the prior of Coxford had lands in Grimston.

On the dissolution of religious houses it was granted to sir Thomas Wodehouse, of Waxham in Norfolk; afterwards it came to William Bladwell, of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, and it appears to be held in that family to the 17th of James I.

CORDEL'S and DUNHAM'S MANORS. Thomas, son of Walter Cordel, purchased lands, by fine, in the 5th year of king John; and John Hode, or Ode, of Lynn, and Robert Cordel, or Cordwell, held in this town and Congham, the tenth part of a fee of John de Vaux, in the reign of Henry III.

In

In the 16th of Edward I. this tenth part was assigned to Petronilla, wife to William de Narford, as eldest daughter of John de Vaux, being in the tenure of Jeffrey Cordel; and in the said year John Dunham was found to hold part of a fee of William de Roos and Maud his wife, the other daughter of John de Vaux.

In the 7th of Edward II. a fine was levied between Simon, son of Robert Cordel of Grimston, and Robert the father, of lands settled on Simon: and in the 20th of Edward III. John Ode, and the heirs of Robert Cordel, and their tenants, held here and in Congham, as appears by an inquisition, half a fee of the heirs of John de Vaux.

From the above proprietors the manors took their names.

It afterwards came to the Wodehouses, and Roger Wodehouse, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, kept their first court of Downham-hall, on the feast of St. Prisca the Virgin, January 18, in the 2d of Henry VIII. and it came from Wodehouse, in the 17th of Elizabeth, to John Holditch, esq. of Ranworth.

On December 20, in the 19th of Elizabeth, William Yelverton, esq. purchased the manor of Downham of John Holditch, esq. of Ranworth; and Edward Yelverton, his second son, executor to his father, kept his court on Monday May 22, in the 29th of Elizabeth.

COSTEYN'S MANOR. Nicholas Costeyn occurs lord in the 9th of Edward II. and William Costeyn, in the first year of Richard II. held it of the honor of
of

of Arundel; and in the 19th of Henry VIII. Thomas duke of Norfolk, Thomas marquis of Dorset, — Fitz Walter, sir Roger Townshend, John Cressener, and John Whitby, scosses of this lordship, for the use of Roger Wodehouse, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas, held a court on Monday next after the Passion of our Lord. Roger Wodehouse, esq. conveyed it by fine to John Holditch, esq. in the 17th of Elizabeth. After this it came to William Yelverton, esq. in the 19th of Elizabeth, and so to his son Edward, and to William Bladwell.

BOZUN'S, GRIMSTON'S, alias CONGHAM'S, alias GAYTON, alias WYVELING'S, alias REED-HALL. Robert Bozoun, of Thornage in Norfolk, by an indenture made March 24, in the 33d of Elizabeth, for 70l. covenants to levy a fine of the manor of Grimston, alias Congham, alias Gayton, alias Wyvelingham, alias Reed-hall, with 4l. 14s. 7d. rent, late Roger Bozoun's, son of the said Robert, to Anthony Bedingsfeld, gent. to the use of Anthony, and Roger Bozoun, for their lives; and then to the use of Edward Yelverton and Margaret his wife, and his heirs. The rents of the free tenants of Bozoun's manor, about this time, were 2l. 7s. 4d. and the copy-holders 16d. per ann. From Yelverton it was conveyed to William Bladwell, esq. as in Breccles manor.

MORLEY'S MANOR, &c. In the 17th of Edward III. sir Robert Morley was lord, and Joan his wife joined in settling of it in tail, and he is said, in the 20th of that king, to hold it by the fourth part of a fee of the heirs of Huntingfeld, which John de St. Cleer and his tenants formerly held. In the 34th of the said reign, sir Robert Morley was found to die beyond sea, seised of this lordship, and sir Wil-

liam Morley was his son, aged 30, by Hawisia his first wife, daughter and heir of sir William Marshall, knt. and Henry Morley, aged 15, and Robert, were his sons by his second wife.

After this it was in the Wodehouses. Roger Wodehouse, of Kimberley, esq. settled it on the 2d of May, in the 36th of Henry VIII. on his son Thomas and Margaret his wife, daughter of sir John Shelton; and Roger Wodehouse, esq. son of Thomas and Margaret, held his first court on the 17th of March, in the 15th of Elizabeth: in the 17th year of that queen he conveyed it, with the manors of Downham-Hall and Costeyn's, to John Holditch, esq. of Ranworth, who, with Elizabeth his wife, sold the said manors for 540l. on December 20, in the 19th of Elizabeth, to William Yelverton, esq. and from him they came to his son, Edward Yelverton; and from him to William Bladwell, esq. as in Brecles manor, &c.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. The prior of Castle-acre held lands here.

In the 33d of Elizabeth it was settled by Robert Bozoun, of Thornage, esq. together with the manors of Bozoun, Wyvelingham, Reed-hall, &c. as in Bozoun's manor, from which family it came to Edward Yelverton, and so to William Bladwell, esq.

BLACKBOROUGH PRIORY MANOR. The prioress of Blackborough has a small lordship here.

William Bladwell purchased it of the Yelvertons, after many proprietors at present unknown in the different reigns from the dissolution, on April 12, 1615, in the reign of James I.

WESTACRE

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. In the 16th year of Henry III. a fine was levied between Bartholomew, son of Simon, and Robert prior of Westacre, when Bartholomew conveyed two messuages and forty-four acres of land, in Grimston, to the prior.

After its dissolution it was granted, on the 27th of June, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, to sir Henry Bedingfield. Sir Henry sold it to Robert Coke of Mileham, and Coke conveyed it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to William Yelverton, of Rougham, esq. and his son Edward sold it to William Bladwell, April 12, 1615.

In the 9th of Richard I. a fine was levied between Peter, son of Richard, and Alan, son of Reiner, or Reinham, of the moiety of a capital messuage, and a carucate of land, &c. here, and in the fields of Congham, not of the best nor worst land, conveyed to Peter, to be held by the service of a pair of gilt spurs, of the value of three-pence.

In the 16th of Edward I. Thomas de Weyland purchased by fine, of Nicholas, son of William, son of Reiner, messuages and lands in Grimston, Congham, and Gayton: this was the judge, sir Thomas de Weyland, who was banished, and his estate confiscated, as we have observed in Massingham, and was found to hold one hundred shillings rent per ann. in this town, Congham and Gayton, of Nicholas, son of Reiner, by the service of two shillings per ann.

Berner, captain of the cross-bow-men, had the grant of a lordship, of which Ulueruna, a free woman, was deprived.

This lordship came from Berner to the Picots, and on the death of Eustace Picot, was inherited by his daughter Lauretta, who married Hugh de Burdelys, who died about the 30th of Henry II. The family of de Burdelys were also lords of Scoulton, Congham and Hillington, in Norfolk; of Madingley and Comberton, in Cambridgehire; and bore ermin, on a chief, gules, a lion passant, or, as appears from a roll of king Edward I. knights in Cambridgehire.

John, the last heir male of this family, died a minor, in 1396.

The church of Grimston is dedicated to St. Botolph, and is a rectory. Near two hundred acres of glebe are said to belong to this rectory, with a manor, lete, and a sheep walk.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave, two isles, and a chancel covered with lead; a large four-square tower, and five bells.

The patronage of this church is in the master and fellows of Queen's college. The Rev. Mr. Cowper, president of that college, was the late rector: he succeeded the Rev. Morley Unwin, who was likewise president of Queen's, and was killed by a fall from his horse as he was riding out to take the air, in the street of Godmanchester near Huntingdon, where he was lecturer, and kept a school with much reputation.

In 1703 here was a school, endowed with a house and 20l. per ann. by the gift of William Brage, esq. of Hatfield Peverell in Essex, lord of Grimston.

This town is wrote in Doomsday-book, Grimeftuna, Gruneftuna, and Erneftuna, and takes its name from a rivulet that arifes by the church.

The rivulet aforefaid arifes on the north fide of the church-yard, from which it is parted by a little road, in a bottom, where it makes a little pool, and runs hence to Lynn.

Grimfton is to the eaft of Lynn about feven miles.

HARPLEY, is fituated on a pleasing eminence, within a mile of Houghton-hall, the magnificent feat of the earl of Orford. The church affords a beautiful profpect, or landscape at a diftance, being built on a hanging hill, and feen at fome diftance.

This town was one of thofe granted by the Conqueror to William de Warren.

CALTHORPE'S MANOR. In the 17th of Edward II. fir Walter de Calthorpe was lord, and held here, in Fulmondefton, Hackford and Burnham, five fees and an half of the earl of Pembroke, of the caftle of Acre; but in the 3d of Edward III. fir William de Calthorpe, knt. of Burnham Thorpe, fettled it on himfelf for life, and Walter his fon, and Alice his wife, in tail; remainder on his younger fons, John, Oliver, William, &c.

In 1360 fir Oliver de Calthorpe was lord; and in the 14th of Henry VII. Clement Anger had it in farm, of fir Philip Calthorpe: in this family it continued, till Elizabeth, fifter and heir of Philip Calthorpe, efq. and only daughter of fir Philip, brought it by marriage to fir Henry Parker, who had livery

of it in the 3d of Edward VI. Sir Calthorpe Parker died possessed of it in the 13th of James I. and sir Philip his son succeeded him.

From the Calthorpes, after many descents, it came to the earl of Orford.

GOURNEY'S MANOR. This manor in the reign of Henry II. came into the family of the Gournays.

Sir John de Gourney was lord in the reign of Henry II.

John Gourney, esq. of Harpley, released in the 2d of Henry IV. to Hugh Bavent, all his right in a messuage, and forty-four acres of land in this township, formerly Alice Bevant's, wife of Richard Bevant, and died in the 9th of the said king.

The Gournays remained in possession till the reign of Henry VII.

The Cursons enjoyed it in the reign of queen Elizabeth; from the Cursons it came to the Yelvertons, and sir William Yelverton, bart. sold it about 1642, to John Walpole, esq. of Bromesthorpe, who married Abigail, daughter and heir of Froximer Corbet, of Bromesthorpe.

This John was brother of Robert Walpole, esq. of Houghton in Norfolk, and father of sir Edward Walpole, knight of the bath, who inherited it as heir to his uncle John; and in this family it remains, the earl of Orford being the present lord.

UPHALL MANOR. In the 3d of Edward I. Laurence de Manors was lord, and had a lette belonging to
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to him, for which he paid eighteen-pence to the lord of the hundred: he was succeeded by his son William de Manors, who with Margaret his wife, was living in the 35th of that king.

After this, by a deed dated November 26, in the 18th of Edward II. at Harpley, Walter son of Robert de Meleford, grants to his lord, sir John de Gourney, rector of the church of Harpley, his messuage called Uphall, with all the homages, and services of his free tenants, view of frank-pledge, free bull and boar, all perquisites of court, and all other liberties late Ralph's, son of Walter de Manors, with wards, reliefs, escheats, &c. with all the lands that Mariona, late wife of the said Walter, holds for life, being of his right and inheritance; and all the tenements which sir Henry de Walpole, knt. Godfrey son of Acelina de Harplee, and Thomas Elwyn, of Houghton, hold of the said Mariona, during her life, and which, after her decease, ought to descend to the said Walter and his heirs, the said John de Gourney paying one clove per ann.—Witnesses, sir Henry de Walpole, Thomas de Feltham, Edmund Laurence, Oliver de Maffingham, Ralph de Walsingham, William de Harplee.

And the said manor, tenements, &c. were by deed of the said John de Gourney, dated on Monday the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, in the 6th year of king Edward III. granted to his nephew, John de Gourney, and Jane his wife, and their heirs.

Here is an annual fair kept on the 25th of July, granted in the 35th of Edward I. to John de Gourney, lord, patron and rector of the town; and it belongs to the rector for the time being.

The church is dedicated to St. Laurence the Martyr, and is a rectory.

The church has a nave, a north and south isle, and a chancel; and was built by sir Robert Knowls, a famous general in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. in the wars in France; who was knight of the garter, and bore gules, on a chevron, argent, three roses of the first, which arms are painted on screens on the left hand as you enter the chancel; and on the right hand argent, a fess dauncy, between three leopards faces, sable, the arms of sir Robert's wife, probably a Beverley.

In the windows of the church were the arms of Gourney, argent, a cross, ingrailed, gules;—of Basingbourne, gyrony of eight, or, and azure;—of Noiers, vairy, argent and gules;—of Calthorpe, cheque, or, and azure, a fess, ermine,

On the pavement of the chancel lies an old marble grave-stone, whereon was the portraiture or effigies of a priest, with two shields and a rim of brass, now torn off: by the incision of the stone made to let the letters in on the rim, it appears to be—*Hic jacet corpus Johis de Gournay, quonda' rectoris et patroni hujus ecclesie. cuj; a'v'e. p'pitiatur Deus, Amen.*—He died rector in the 6th of Edward III.

Hic jacet Henricus Colman, S. T. P. Rector de Harpley, et Foulsham in agro Norfolc. filius Ricardi Colman, armigeri, et Annæ uxoris suæ, filiæ Edwardi Hyde de Hatch in com. Wylt. S. T. P. vir admodum reverendus, benevolentia, literis, et pietate egregie notus, qui obt. nono die mensis Oct. aq. 1715.

In the uppermost window but one of the north isle, was the history of St. Laurence, painted on the glass, as appears from some fragments, and the insignia of that saint, a grid-iron, or.

The earl of Orford is the chief proprietor of this parish: the college of Christ College hold some lands in this as well as many other parishes in this county, which are upon lease to the present earl of Orford.

Henry Bland, D. D. dean of Durham, held this living, with that of Great Bircham, from the year 1715 to the year 1744, when he resigned it, and the Rev. Horace Hamond, D. D. was instituted on the presentation of the late earl of Orford, and is the present rector.

HILLINGTON. This town is situated near the river, but on the opposite side, that rises in the springs of Flitcham abbey, and derives its name from that circumstance of lying near the water. In Doomſday-book it is called Helingetuna.

Sir Martin Folkes, bart. has a seat here, which he has lately much improved, and it is now equal to most of the family seats in this county. The gardens are planted with the choicest trees, and the hot walls and pinery being finished in much taste and propriety, produce annually great quantities of fruit and grapes in the highest perfection.

AUBYN'S, OR ALBON'S MANOR. In the 25th of Edward I. Robert, son of Albon, of Stamford, conveyed by fine to John, (son of Albon of Stamford) of Hillington, and Sibill his wife, lands and messuages here.

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In the 28th of that king, John Albon or Aubyn, and Sibill his wife, had conveyed to them by a fine, from Sarah, daughter of Richard de Merley, lands, &c. in Hillington, with the moiety of the advowson of the church.

From this John Albon the manor seems to take its name; and in the 2d of Edward III. a fine was levied between John Aubyn of Hillington and Margaret his wife, and Vincent, son of Philip of Wood-Norton, of messuages and lands here, and in Congham, with the advowson of a moiety of this church, settled on John, &c. in tail.

In 1412, this manor was in the family of Irmington, and after this it came to the lord Scales; and in the 13th of Edward IV. it descended to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, in right of Elizabeth his mother, daughter and heir of John Howard, esq. grandson and heir to sir Robert Howard and Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of Robert lord Scales; which John dying without issue, was succeeded by his nephew, John Vere earl of Oxford, who left on his death, in 1526, his three sisters, Urfula, married to sir Edward Knightly; Dorothy, to John Nevill lord Latimer; and Elizabeth, to sir Anthony Wingfield, his co-heiresses.

Urfula having no issue, this lordship came to the lords Latimers, and the Wingfields family; and soon after the lord Latimer conveyed his moiety to the Wingfields; and sir Robert Wingfield had livery of it about the 1st of queen Elizabeth; and in the 24th of the said queen conveyed it to William Walpole, esq. who had in the said year a pardon for purchasing it without licence; and was sold by the execu-

tors of the said William, to Richard Hovell, esq. who presented to the church as lord in 1610.

In this family it continued many years, and on the death of sir William Hovell, knt. it came to his three daughters and co-heirs, and their descendants.

Martin Folkes, esq. by the marriage of the second daughter and co-heir, had an interest in it, as his son Martin had, on whose death it came to his brother, William Folkes, esq. and his son sir Martin Folkes, bart. is the present lord.

UPHALL and NETHERHALL MANORS. This manor of Uphall was formerly granted to the conventual church of Campsey priory in Suffolk.

On the dissolution it was granted to John Eyre, esq. by king Henry VIII. on February 20, in his 36th year, from whom it came to the family of Stede. William Stede, and William Playfoot held it in the 4th of Elizabeth,

William, son and heir of William, was lord of Uphall and Hillington (and it extended into Flicham, Congham, Grimston and Roydon) in the 21st of Elizabeth, Playfoot conveying his right to William Stede in the 6th of the said queen; and William Stede his son, by his will dated April 23, 1613, bequeathed it to Thomas his son. It was after united to the other lordship.

The manor of Netherhall was possessed by William Barker, gent. of Edgefield, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and purchased of him by Richard Hovell, esq. and so it came to sir Martin Folkes, bart. the present lord.

BURY'S HALL was purchased of William Walpole, esq. by Richard Hovell, esq. and so became united to the other lordships held by sir Martin Folkes, bart. the present lord.

WEST DERHAM MANOR was also purchased about 1580, of William Walpole, esq. by Richard Walpole, esq.

LEWIS OF CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY. William earl Warren and Surry, gave in the reign of Henry II. two parts of the tithe of his fee to Castle-acre priory.

There is also another manor in this parish, of which sir James Johnstone, bart. is the present lord, in right of his lady, the widow of the Rev. Mr. Meyric.

Sir James has built a seat on the top of a hill in this parish, which commands a most extensive prospect over Lynn channel and to the British ocean, west and north, and over all the country to the south as far as Downham, ten miles to the southward of Lynn.

The family of Hovell is of great antiquity. Richard Hovell held of Baldwin, abbot of Bury, in the time of the Conqueror, a lordship at Wiverstone in Suffolk; and five free men held lands under the said Richard.

Sir John Hovell, of Wratting Parva in Suffolk, was living in 1370.

William Hovell, of Rishangles in Suffolk, died in 1433, and by Beatrix his wife, daughter of sir John

John Thorpe, of Ashwell Thorpe, was father of Richard Hovell, who married Frances, daughter of Arthur Hopton, esq. of Westwood in Suffolk, widow of sir Thomas Nevill, and left William his son and heir, of Ashfield in Suffolk, who died July 7, 1534. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Rowland Harlike, of Lopham, esq. he was father of William Hovell, of Ashfield, who married Ann, daughter of Thomas Gawdy, of Harleston, esq. and Ann Basingborne his wife, by whom he had a son, William, of Stratfield-hall in Hadleigh, Suffolk, who took to wife Ann, daughter of Richard Turner, of Norton.

The church is a single pile; that and the chancel are covered with tile, and has a square tower, with one bell.

On the north wall of the chancel is a mural monument, with the effigies of a gentleman in his gown, and his wife, on their knees, thus inscribed:

The monument of Richard Hovell, of Hillington in the countie of Norfolk, Esq; being of the age of 77 years and upwards, finished his course the 30th of November, 1611, in peace with God, in charity with all men, and now resteth here with expectation of the Resurrection, in assurance of eternal glorification. Margery Hovell, wife of the aforesaid Richard Hovell, Esq; deceased, and one of the daughters and heyres of John Ford, of Frating, in the countie of Essex, Esq; who having lyved vertuously and comfortably with her said husband, 44 years, did beare unto him 4 sonnes and 9 daughters, whereof there are yet twelve alive to her great comfort, being all growne to the perfect state of men and women.—On the summit is the shield of Hovell, sable, a crescent, or, impaling Ford, argent, a wolf salient, sable.

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On another mural monument are the effigies of a man in armour, and his wife, kneeling at a desk, with the arms of Hovell, and Ford, quarterly, impaling, or, on a bend, vert, three bucks heads, caboshed, argent, Fernley.

At the north east corner of the chancel is an altar tomb of marble, and iron rails before it, with the arms of Folkes, vert, a fleur de lis; and Hovell, in an escutcheon of pretence: the crest, an arm erect, holding a spear.

Here lyes the body of Martin Folkes, late of Hillington, in the county of Norfolk, Esq; who was born the 28th day of August, 1640, and died the 17th day of February, 1705.

On a grave-stone—*Lillius Hovell, filius Guli. Hovell militis, et uxoris ejus, Etheldredæ, obt. 3 die Maij Ao. Domi. 1664, ætatis suæ die 24to.*

Thomas, the second son of Sir Will. Hovell, and Dame Etheldreda his wife, born the last day of Febr: 1667, and died the 14th day of October, 1668.

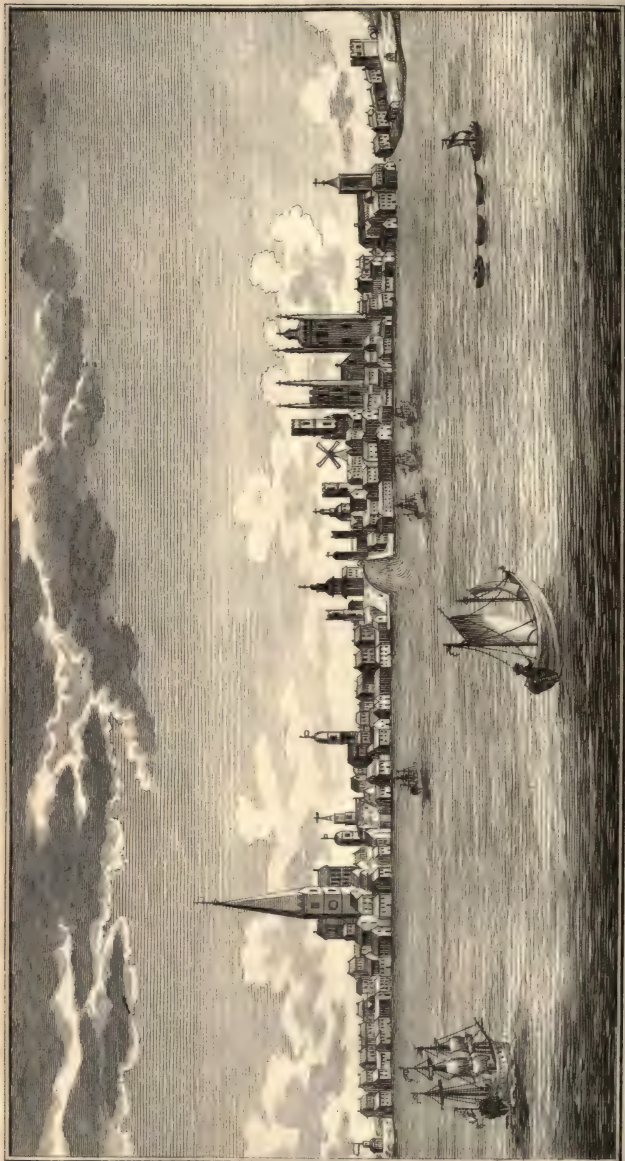
Hic jacet corpus Gulielmi Hovell, militis, qui obt. 4 die Martij, ao. 1669, ætatis suæ 33; and the arms of Hovell.

William Posthumus, the younger son of Sir William Hovell, knight, and Dame Etheldreda his wife, born the 8 of August, 1670, and dyed the 12 of April, 1671.

Maria conjux Johis. Novell, rectoris hujus ecclesiæ, obt. Nov. 28, 1706.

Richard Hovell, Esq; son to Sir Richard Hovell, of Hillington, died Octr. 23, in 1715, aged 70.

There



There are elegant marble monuments in the chancel to the memory of sir William Browne, knt. and lady Browne; and to the memory of the late William Folkes, esq. and his lady, daughter of sir William and lady Browne, mother to sir Martin Folkes, bart. the present lord of the manor.

The present rector of Hillington is the Rev. William Nelson, presented in 1758 by sir Simeon Stuart, bart. The next presentation is in sir Martin Folkes.

LYNN REGIS or KING's LYNN;

FORMERLY CALLED

LYNN EPISCOPI or BISHOP's LYNN.

NEAR the mouth of the Great Ouse, and the washes, called *Æstuarium Metaris*, probably from the British word Maltraith, according to Camden, a name by which the Britons called such *Æstuaries* or Tides in other places, and importing no more than an uncertain *Æstuary* or Tide, stands Lynn.

In the book of Doomsday this town is wrote *Lena* and *Lun*. Camden was of opinion, that it took its name from its spreading waters, that being implied in the British word *Lhyn*; but Spelman affirms that the right name is *Len*, from *Len* in Saxon, a farm or tenure in fee; so *Fanelhen* among the Germans, is the tenure or fee of a baron, and *Len Episcopi* is the bishop's farm: We have no doubt that this is the true derivation of the name to this celebrated

brated town. Spelman farther observes, that the word *Len* is used also in a more limited sense by the Saxons to signify church lands, and appeals to the several names of places wherein that sense of the word holds; and farther *Ter-llen* in the Welch language is *Terra Ecclesiæ*, or land belonging to the church.

Camden was of opinion that the town was not of any antiquity, but sprung out of the ruins of what is called Old Lynn, or West Lynn, which lies on the west and opposite side of the great river Ouse, and, with sir Henry Spelman, supposes it to be called in the time of the Saxons, *Maydenburgh*, importing, the Maiden's Bowre, *Virginis Sacrarium et velut Thalamus*, the chapel, or retiring place of the virgin, that is, of St. Margaret the Virgin, the tutelar saint or patroness of the town.

Etymologists have been very deficient on this subject: they relate that this town assumed its name from the head of one of those eleven thousand virgins, or maidens heads, who suffered with St. Ursula, which head was had in great veneration and worshipped in the said town of Maidenhead: but Sirmondus, a learned jesuit, has exposed this stale monkish tradition and fiction, and shewn that Ursula and Undecimilla were two virgin saints and martyrs, and the name of Undecimilla came through the ignorance of some transcriber to be wrote and changed into *Undecem Millia*, that is in English, eleven thousand; and thus by one stroke of the pen so great a number of virgins were canonized.

The name of this town is not only a proof of its antiquity, but the principal lordship of the town confirms it, which was at the survey, and in the reign

reign of the Confessor, in the see of Elmham, or the East Angles. What king gave it to that see, does not appear, but it is highly probable that Felix, the first bishop of the East Angles, was in possession of it and of Elmham about the year 630, and Bedwin was bishop of Elmham in 673.

That its situation answers its name and derivation appears from its real scite, on a great level or flat silty soil, close to the east side of the great river Ouse, which brings with it to this port, from its rise in Northamptonshire, the waters of Buckingham, Bedford, Huntingdon and Cambridgeshire, with those of Norfolk and Suffolk, and empties itself below this port into the great British ocean.

The river Nar, or Sechy river, falls also into the Ouse near the south gates of Lynn.

The river that comes from Ashwicken, Mintling, &c. runs cross the town, and empties itself at Lady Bridge, as does the river from Gayton and Lefiate, by Purfleet Bridge.

To this we may add that the sea meeting all these waters with great rage and violence on spring tides and tempestuous, windy weather forces them back, and at times occasions inundations, and more frequently in former times, before the many banks, mounds, &c. were raised, which now guard and defend it, which if removed or neglected, would reduce it to its original state, and render it again as a pool or lake.

The country also on the west side of the Ouse, called Marshland, is subject from its scite, surrounded on every side with water, to be overflowed both
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by fresh and salt waters. Before the year 1181, it was so drowned, that there was no dwelling-house, or land, that any profit could be made of in the town of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, from Buxtard Dole to the southern bounds or end of it, except the monastery or hermitage of Crabhouse, or Crab-Ouse, but all was a sea.

The river Nene also used to flow directly from Peterborough to Lynn; and in the 3d of king Edward III. it was found to do so, till Walter de Langton, bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, lord treasurer to king Edward I. had twenty-eight years last past stopped up the passage of it at Upwell, to drain his manor of Coldham; the waters that then bounded Lynn were called the waters of Lynn, and the marshes on that side, as far as West Walton, were called the marshes of Lynn.

In the 11th year of king Edward II. a commission of Sewers was directed to John de Ingaldesthorpe, and Richard de Walsingham, reciting that in South Lynn, above five hundred marks damage was done, on account of the defect of gutters, sewers and drains; and in the 11th of Edward III. the said township was greatly damaged and impoverished, by inundations from the sea, and the loss in the country about Lynn was so great, that the king in compassion remitted their taxes.

In the 2d of Richard II. a commission was directed to William Ufford, earl of Suffolk, &c. on complaint of the towns of Wiggenhall, Irlington, Tilney, Clenchwarton, Watlington, Runcton, Holme, Setchy and West Winch, that the river Ouse, which ran through those townships into the sea, and was within thirty years past not above twelve perches broad,

broad, by the breaches in, and decay of the banks, was grown to the breadth of a mile; upon which, by an inquisition at Wiggshall, it was found that the banks on both sides of the said river were so much broken, that not only those townships, but also South Lynn and Hardwick were in danger of being destroyed: and in 1570, on the 2d and 3d of October, all Marshland was so drowned by the sea waters, that there were not ten rods of whole sea bank from Old or West Lynn to Magdalen Bridge in Wiggshall; and on November 1, 1613, the sea broke in with such violence on Marshland, that the damage was estimated at thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and sixty-two pounds, and many inundations have been since that time.

On the south-east parts of this town, from the hamlet of Hardwick, (which signifies a turn of water at the point of hard land) to the south gates of Lynn, is raised a long and broad substantial causeway over the marsh, as a security (as well as a road) against the waters on that side; and between Hardwick and West Winch is a considerable ditch and bank (antiently called Green Dike) joining to the aforesaid causeway; and like banks, &c. may be observed to the east and north-east parts of the said town, as far as Gaywood bridge.

Such a situation as this was particularly made choice of, on account of the difficulty of access in time of danger, or approach of an enemy; being easily fortified and defended: and on account of trade, ease and conveniency of importing and exporting all manner of goods and merchandise, to and from foreign countries. Such a situation as this, Camillus, the Roman Dictator, applauded and boasted of in his speech to the citizens of Old Rome,

and encouraged them to keep possession of it, and not to desert it, when the Gauls had sacked it.—*Non sine causa Dij, Hominesq; hunc urbi condendæ locum elegerunt, flumen enim opportunum, quo ex mediterraneis locis fruges debebantur, quo marilimi commeatus accipiantur. Mare vicinum ad commoditates, nec expositum nimia propinquitate ad periculum classium exteraram.*

Having thus treated on the name and scite of this burgh, the next particular that offers itself, will be to consider the ancient tenures or lordships of it; the most ancient and authentic account of this is from the Conqueror's book of Doomsday, made in the year 1085, at which time, and in the Confessor's, this town, with the townships or hamlets of West, North and South Lynn, we find to be all included under the general name of Lena, and Lun, the distinction of West, North and South not being till some centuries after, as will appear under the history of those places.

In this most valuable book we learn, that Ralph, lord Tony, had a lordship in Lena, which Harold held in king Edward's time, and which he lost with his crown at the battle of Hastings; this was South Lynn.

Ralph, lord Baynard, had in Lena a lordship; this was also in South Lynn, and extended into the other hamlets.

Hermer de Ferrarijs had in Lun a lordship; this was in West Lynn, and also extended into the other hamlets.

Rainald, son of Ivø, had a lordship in Lena, which extended into all the hamlets.

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The abbot also of Bury had in Lena a lordship; this was North Lynn.

These are the only lordships (with some few particulars that are to be found relating to them) that occur under the name of Lena, or Lun.

But none of these lords were the chief, or capital lords of that part of Lena or Lynn which is now called the burgh: the two great lords of that, in the Confessor's reign, were Agelmare bishop of Elmham, as lord of Gaywood, in right of that fee, and Stigand, as lord of the manor of Rising, and of the hundred of Freebridge, which Stigand was archbishop of Canterbury, but held this and many more lordships in his own right, as a lay fee. Agelmare and Stigand are not expressly named under the name of Lena, to be lords of the town, though Stigand is mentioned to have the fee of the lordships of Ralph lord Baynard, Hermer de Ferrarijs, and Rainold, son of Ivo, probably as lord of the hundred: and the reason of their not being mentioned as lords of this part, (the burgh part) is, because that was included, valued and accounted for under the lordships of Gaywood and Rising, and the burgh part was as beruites, or little manors, depending on those great and capital ones, which extended into that part. Many towns are not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, which has induced historians to conclude, that they were not in being at that time, and has been the occasion of great mistakes, they not reflecting on the true end and design of the book, which was to set forth every tenure, under the capital manor to which it belonged, in the town where that capital manor had its ſcite: so that the town wherein such a tenure lay is not often mentioned, and when it is, it is named to be a beruite

to the said capital manor. Many examples of this are to be found, and such is the case now before us.

LYNN BISHOP'S MANOR. One part or moiety, at least, if not more, was, as we have observed, in Agelmare, or Ailmar, bishop of Elmham, a Saxon married prelate, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, in right of his capital manor of Gaywood, which extended into this town, and being deprived of his see of Elmham, of which Gaywood was a member, in 1070, was succeeded by Herfast, or Arfast, who removed his see from Elmham to Thetford, and was lord. On whose death William de Beaufoe was preferred to it, and was bishop when the grand survey was made, in 1085, when it appears from the said book, that he was lord of Gaywood, and consequently of this manor, in right of his see of Thetford. Herbert his successor translated the see to Norwich, and on his foundation of the priory of the Holy Trinity in his church of Norwich in 1101, gave the church of Lynn, with a manor, all his salt-works, and marshes, at Gaywood and Lynn, to the priory aforesaid, to hold them as freely, quit and exempt of all customs and services, as he himself, Arfast and William, his predecessors, enjoyed them; and erected also a priory as a cell to that of Norwich, on the south side of St. Margaret's church which he had built.

That it was a place of trade and consequence, before and in the reign of the Conqueror, and the capital manor in *Lena*, appears from its enjoying the privilege of certain duties and customs, with a toll-booth in this town, and before the Norman conquest, payable on the arrival of any goods or merchandises by sea or land; and the bishop was then in full possession of a moiety, which the Conqueror
on

on his deprivation seized on, and gave to his brother Odo, bishop of Baieux in Normandy; and on his rebellion against king William II. that king granted it to William de Albini, his butler, called *Pincerna Regis*. How long before this the bishops of Elmham enjoyed this, we cannot determine, or when they had the first grant of this manor, but it is highly probable, it was very early in the Saxon age; and at that time they had the grant of the towns of Dunwich and Elmham, about the year 630, and Redwin on a division of the fee of Dunwich, held the fee of Elmham in 673.

William of Newburgh, who lived in the reign of Richard I. calls Lynn *Urbs commeatu et commercijs nobilis*, a city noble or of note, for its trade and commerce; and the Jews, a people in all ages famous on this account, had great numbers (as he relates) of them settled here, and being enraged on the conversation of one of their body to Christianity, they set upon him, in order to have slain him; who, to prevent it, took sanctuary in a church: they broke open the doors, and would have taken him out by force. On this noise and uproar a number of the Christians came to his rescue, but the inhabitants being in fear of the king, who had taken the Jews under his protection, acted on the reserve; on which many young strangers and foreigners, who were in the town on account of their trade, fell on the Jews, killed several of them, burnt and plundered their houses, and these foreigners, to avoid the king's anger, took shipping directly with their spoil. At this day there is a street called from them, Jews Street, where they lived together: they had then great indulgences, which they paid the government for; bought houses and lands, which rendered them hated by the natives and Christians; and in many ancient
deeds

deeds may be seen a form of warranty against selling land, &c. to them, viz.—*Et cuicumq; dare, vendere, et assignare voluent, præterquam domui religiosæ et Judaismo, vel Judæis.*

John de Grey, bishop of Norwich in the year 1204, being desirous of possessing those lands, privileges, &c. in this town, which Herbert his predecessor, &c. had conveyed to the priory of Norwich, made an exchange with them; and the priory resigned to him and his successors, all their rights and profits in the fairs of Lynn and Gaywood, and all their rents and perquisites which they had in Lynn, or without.

And the said bishop by another deed, then dated, appropriated to the said priory the church of St. Margaret, with all its spiritualities, tithes, oblations and obventions, with the chapels of St. Nicholas and St. James; also the church of Mintling, with all its appurtenances; with all the tithe belonging to the demean lands of his lordship of Gaywood; on condition that they take care to have the said churches and chapels served by their chaplains, to be removed or admitted, on any just cause, at the will of the bishop; and that it should be lawful for him only to erect any chapel in the aforesaid parishes, and if any was erected, the priory should have the sole profit of it.

The town by this exchange being for the greatest part again in the bishops of Norwich, obtained the name of Bishop's Lynn, and was so called in all deeds and writings, till alienated to the crown in the reign of king Henry VIII.

This

This bishop, John de Grey, built a stately palace at Gaywood, and having certified to king John the exchange made between him and the priory of Norwich, he obtained a grant from the king of a free burgh for this town.

The king in his charter sets forth, “ That on the
“ request of John, the second of that name, bishop
“ of Norwich, he had granted that the village of
“ Lenn should be a free burgh for ever, and have
“ all the liberties and free customs, which free
“ burghs have in all respects, saving to that bishop
“ and his successors, and to William earl of Arun-
“ del and his heirs, those liberties and customs,
“ which they have of old held in the said village,
“ &c.”

JOANNES De j gratia, &c.—Noveritis Nos ad instantiam, et petitionem venerabilis patris nostri, Joh. Norwic. Episc. secundi, concessisse, et hac p^{re} senti charta nostra confirmasse, qd. villa de Lenn, sit liber Burgus in perpetuum, et habeat omnes libertates et liberas consuetudines quas liberi burgi habent in omnib; salvis ipso Episc^o. et successor. suis, et Will^{mo}. Comitj Arundel, et heredib. suis, libertatib; et consuetudinib; quas ipsi in p^{re} dicta villa antiquitus habuerunt. Quare volumus, et firmiter p^{re} cipimus qd. p^{re} dicta villa de Lenn, sit liber Burgus in p^{re} petuum, et habeat omnes libertates et consuetudines liberas quas liberi burgi nostri habent in omnibus, bene, et in pace, libere et quiete et integre, plenarie et honorifice, sicut p^{re} dictum est.

It is to be observed here, that as the king had by charter granted Lynn to be a free burgh, so it was necessary that the bishop, as lord of the burgh, should do the same, and was undoubtedly obliged also to certify his consent, and approve of the same.

The

The following is the charter of John de Grey, bishop of Norwich, to the burgesſes of Lynn.

CHARTA JOH. LE GREY, Episc. Norwic.
BURGENSIBUS de LENNA.

OMNIB; ad quos præſens ſcriptum p'venerit—*Joh. Dei gratia Norwicens. Episc. ſalut. in Dno. ſempiternam—Noverit univerſitas veſtra nos conceſſiſſe et p' ſentj charta confirmatſe ville noſtre de Lenn, viz. Toti parochie eccl'ie Sce. Margarete in eadem villa, et omnib; hominib; in ead. parochia manentib; omnes et eaſdem libertates quas habent burgenses de Oxeneford, quia Dominus Rex nobis p. chartam ſuam conceſſit, ut eligeremus burgum in Anglia quem cunq; vellemus, ut eaſdem libertates quas burgus ille habet, haberet et villa noſtra de Lenna, et nos elegimus Oxenefordiam. Et ideo volumus, qd. eadem villa liber ſit burgus, et eaſdem libertates habeat, quas habet burgus de Oxeneford in omnib; ſalvis nobis et ſucceſſoribus noſtris in perpetuum, omnib; libertatib; et conſuetudinib; quas habuimus et habemus in villa noſtra de Lenna, ſecundum quod charta Dni Regis Anglie Johanniſt eſtatur, quam nobis fecit de libertatib; eidem burgo collatis. Quare volumus et p'cipimus, ut p'dicti burgenses habeant et teneant omnes res et poſſeſſiones ſuas libere et quiete, honorifice, plenarie et integre ſecundum quod ſupradiximus.—Hijs teſtib; Galfrido, Archidiacono Norwic. Thome Fratre ſuo, Magr°. Will°. de Lenna, Magr°. Rob. de Glouceſtre, Ran°. de Harpel, Jordano Capellano, Joh. de Uffinch, Hen° filio Simeonis, Rob°. Grey, Nich°. de Linſey, Ric°. Baſſet, Regin°. de Nottingham, et multis aliis—Dat. apud London. p. manum Mag. Galfridi de Derham 9°. kalend, Apr. Pontifecat. noſtri A°. Quarto.*

To this was the biſhop's ſeal, his effigies in pontificalibus, and *Joh. Dei gratia epiſcop Norwicens.*—
the

the reverse—the Holy Lamb, with the cross, and
Ecce Agnus Dei qui tollit peccata mundi.

Agreeable therefore to this choice, and request of the bishop, king John grants what is called the Grand Charter of Lynn, in his 6th year, September 14, by which it became a free burgh for ever, with soc and sac, tholl, theam, infangthief and outfangthief, free through all his land and ports, of tolls and tallage, passage, payage, pontage, lastage, lionc and Dane-geld, and all other customs, excepting the liberties of the city of London, and from all suit of country or hundred court, for tenures within the burgh of Lenn; and that none of them should be impleaded out of the burgh in any plea, but in those of foreign tenures; and that all trials of murder should be in the said burgh, and the burgesses freed from all trials by combat or duel, and if impleaded in any, except a foreign one, they might traverse the same, according to the law and custom of Oxford; that no one should have dwelling or entertainment there by force, or assignment of the earl marshal; that no miskenning be allowed; that they keep a hustling court once a week, and have a merchant's guild, &c. according to that of Oxford, and all pleas thereto belonging to be held at Lenn. And if any one throughout all England should take toll or custom from any burghs, except the citizens of London, the provost of Lenn may recover damages by the writ of *Namium*. That all merchants whatever may come to the said burgh with their merchandise, and depart freely and safe, having paid the just customs and dues of the said burgh; and no one is to offer any injury to, or molest the said burgesses, under the penalty of ten pounds; and if the burgesses should be in any doubt in any point what to do, they should send messengers to Oxford, and what the burgesses

burgesses of Oxford should determine, should be firm and valid, saving to the said John, bishop of Norwich, and his successors for ever, and to William earl of Arundel, and his heirs, the liberties, &c. which they have held, and ought to hold in the said village of Lenn, for ever.

Witnesses—Jeffrey Fitz Piers earl of Essex, William earl of Salisbury, William Briwer, Thomas Basset, Alan Basset, Simon de Pateshull, William de Cantilupe, James de Poterna, John de Stokes, Andrew de Beaucham.

Given under the hand of Hugh, archdeacon of Wells, at Lutgershall, 14 September, anno 6.

Johannis Dei gratia Rex Angl. D'ns. Hib. Dux Norm. Aquit. Com. Andeg. Archiep. Episc. Abbat. Comit. Baron. Justic. Vicecomitib; Prepositis, Minst. et Omn. Ballivis et Fidelib; suis, Salut.

“ NOVERITIS NOS ad instantiam et petitionem
 “ venerab. patris nostri J. Norwicens. Epis. secundi,
 “ concessisse et p' senti charta nostra confirmasse
 “ Burgenfib; de Lenna quod burgus de Lenna sit lib.
 “ burgus in p'petuum, et habeat focc. et facc. tholl,
 “ theam, insangenethief et utfangeneth, et quod ipse
 “ per totam terram nostram, et per omnes portus maris
 “ quieti sint de tholon. stallagio, passagio, paag.
 “ pontag. lestag. et de line, et de Daneg. et omnia
 “ alia consuetudine, salva libertat. civitatis London.
 “ et qd. nullam sectam comit. vel hundredor. faciant
 “ de tenuris infra Burgum de Lenna. Concessimus
 “ autem eisd. burgenf. et hac charta nostra confirmavimus
 “ qd. nullus eor. placitet extra Burgum de Lenna
 “ de ullo placito, preterplacita de tenuris
 “ exterioribus

exterioribus. Concessimus et eis quietantiam mur-
 dri infra burgum de Lenna; et qd. nullus eorum
 faciat duellum, et qd. de placitis ad coronam p'ti-
 nentib; se possint distracionare secundum legem et
 consuetud. Oxon. et qd. infra Burgum p'dict. ne-
 mo capiat hospitium p. vim, vel p. liberationem
 marescallorum; et qd. in Burgo illo in nullo pla-
 cito sit miskenninga, et qd. husteng semel tantum
 in Edomada teneatur. Concessimus etiam eis
 gildam mercatoriam, et qd. terras et tenuras vadia
 sua et debita sua omnia iuste habeant quicumq;
 eis debeat, et de terris suis et tenuris que infra Bur-
 gum p'dict. sunt rectum eis teneatur secund. le-
 gem et consuetud. Burgi Oxon. et de omnib; de-
 bitis suis que accommoda fuerint apud Lennam, et
 de vadiis ibidem factis placita apud Lennam tene-
 antur; et si quis in tota Anglia theolon. et con-
 suetud. a Burgenf. de Lenna ceperit, excepta ut
 superius civitate London. postquam ipse a recto
 defecerit, prepositus de Lenna Namium inde apud
 Lennam capiat. Insuper ad emendation. p'dicti
 Burgi de Lenne concessimus qd. quicumq; merca-
 tores petierint Burgum de Lenna cum mercato suo,
 de quocunq; loco fuerint, sive extranei, sive alij
 qui de pace nostra fuerint, vel de licentia nostra in
 terram nostram venerint, veniant, morentur, et re-
 cedantur in salva pace nostra reddendo rectas con-
 suetudines illius Burgi. Prohibemus et nequis
 p'dict. Burgenfib; injuriam vel dampnum vel mo-
 lestiam faciat, super forisfacturam decem librarum.
 Preterea concessimus eisd. Burgenf. qd. si de ali-
 quo judicio dubitaverint vel contenderint quid fa-
 cere debeant, de hoc mittant nuntios suos Oxon.
 et qd. inde Burgenf. Oxon. judicaverint, ratum et
 firmum habeatur. Salvis in p'petuum p'dicto J.
 Norwic. Episco. et success. suis, et Willo. Co-
 miti Arundell et hered. suis, libertatib; et consue-
 tud.

“tud. quasi in p'dicta villa de Lenna antiquitus habuerunt et habere debuerunt. Quare volumus et firmiter percipimus qd. p'dicti Burgens. de Lenna et heredes eor. hec omnia p'dicta hereditarie in p'petuum habeant et teneant, bene et in pace, libere quiete integrè plenarie, et honorifice sicut p'dictum est.

“Testib; Gaufrido Fil. Petri Com. Essex, Willo. Com. Sarum. Willo. Briewer, Tho. Basset, Simone de Pateshull. Willo. de Kauntilup. Jacobo de Potern. J. de Stoke, And. de Bellocampo.

“Dat. p. manu' Hugonis Archidiac. Wellens. apud Lutegareshal decimo quarto die Septemb. anno regni nostri sexto.”

And what privileges could not this powerful and rich prelate obtain of his king, who in his 5th year had pawned to him his regalia, the great crown of England, the gilt sword, surcoat, tunick and dalmatick of Edward the Confessor, with his girdle, sandals, gloves, spurs, &c. all which he received by the hands of John de Ufford, the king's chaplain. To this we may add, that all or most of this king's prime ministers were natives of this county. Hubert, archbishop of Canterbury, &c. was born at West Dereham; Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, lord justiciary of England, governor of Dover castle, &c. at Burgh in Flegg hundred, as was his brother Jeffrey, bishop of Ely; and John de Brancaster, and Jeffrey Fitz Pier, earl of Essex, justiciary of England, &c. was founder of Shouldham abbey.

The town of Lynn had also the privilege of coining money. How long it held this privilege is not clear. King Edward III. in his 18th year, reduced all

all coinage to the standard of the Tower of London, and enjoined all other mints to take their coining tools or stamps from the Tower, allowing them but one pound and five shillings profit in the coinage of one hundred pounds, so that other mints grew weary, and left it off; and probably from this time the mint here became useless.

Historians differ much in their opinions as to the king who first granted to the borough of Lynn the honour of a mayor; some asserting that it was king John, others that it was his successor Henry III. It is certain the first or chief magistrate of Lynn, while under the bishop, till the reign of king John was a *præpositus* or provost, but that there was a mayor in the reign of king John is equally as certain, as appears by his letters patent, dated June 7, 1216, in the 18th year of his reign, at the Devizes in Wiltshire, directed

To the Mayor and good men of Lynn.

At what time king John granted their charter is not with certainty known: these letters are however a sufficient proof, that king John was the king that granted this honour, and not king Henry III. and that it was a mayor town of some continuance in the year 1233.

King John underwent great distresses for the space of above four months before his death, flying from one place of defence to another for refuge, in constant dread and fear of his rebellious barons, being truly persecuted and hunted by them, as a partridge on the mountains: taken from the authority of the patent rolls.

On

On the 3d of June, in his 18th year, 1216, he was at Winchester; on the 7th at Lutgerhall in Wiltshire; at the Divizes in Wiltshire on the same day, as by his patent to the mayor of Lynn above-mentioned, also on the 9th; at Wilton the 14th; at Sherminster the 15th, and at Bere in Dorsetshire the 20th; at Corf Castle the 24th of June and 4th of July; at Warham July 7, at Corf Castle the 16th; at Hay, on the edge of Brecknockshire in Wales, and Hereford the 21st, at Hereford the 30th, and at Lempster the 31st; at Blauncheminster August 7, at Whitchurch 9, at Shrewsbury 14, at Bruges or Bridgenorth 16, at Worcester 17, at Gloucester 18, at Berkley in Gloucestershire 19, at Bristol 21, at Corf 25, at Wells 27, at Bath 28, and on the said day at Sherborne in Dorsetshire, at Bradford 29, and Chipenham in Wiltshire 30; at Cirencester in Gloucestershire September 1, at Burford in Oxfordshire the 2d, at Oxford the 3d, 4th and 5th, at Reading the 7th, at Sunning the 8th; after this at Wallingford, Aylesbury, Buckingham and Bedford; at Cambridge September 16, at Clare in Suffolk 18, at Clive or King's Cliffe, in Northamptonshire, 20, at Rockingham 21, at Lincoln 22, at Scoter in Lincolnshire 25, at Lincoln 28, and October the 1st and 2d; at Louth October the 4th, at Grimsby the 7th and at Spalding the 8th, at Lynn October 9 and 10, at Wisbeach the 12th, at Lafford (Sleford) the 15th, on the 18th at Newark, where he granted that day a patent to F. de Breant, of the honor of Lutin, late Baldwin's, earl of Albemarle; and on Oct. 19 he died in the night at this town:

Some historians relate that he was poisoned by a monk of Swinftede abbey; but he seems by this journal not to have gone by Swineshead: it is certain that he was past that town on the 15th, and was

was at Sleaford; and it is not to be conceived, had he been there poisoned, he could have proceeded to Newark, and died there about five days at least after he had taken the poison, which killed (as is said) the monk who took the same, in a very short space of time.

The places above-mentioned where he took refuge were places of strength, and had their castles, whereas Swineshead was no place of defence or security: the daily success of his rebellious barons, with Lewis the French king's son at their head, his many losses and constant fatigue, had so much impaired his health, that it is no wonder if they hastened his death, and that he was no longer able to bear them.

Swineshead was a very rich and spacious abbey in Lincolnshire, the ruins of which are still remaining. Some historians relate, that king John on his march from Lynn, in order to attack the army of Lewis, dauphin of France, aided by the rebellious barons, lost, on his crossing the washes at an improper time of the tide, all his baggage, provision, and treasures, scarcely escaping with himself and his troops. On his arrival at the abbey of Swineshead, (or as it was formerly wrote Swinesstead) he was received by the abbot and monks with great hospitality, who made sumptuous entertainments for him, which the king observing, condemned their prodigality, and swore "if he lived one year longer, he would make "one halfpenny loaf as dear as twelve." Being overheard by one of the monks, it is said he presented him with an envenomed cup, first tasting of it himself, by which he became the wicked instrument of his own and his sovereign's death, October 19, 1216. But this account is looked upon as fabulous. It is very unlikely the king should entertain

certain such ungrateful sentiments towards the abbot and friars, who had so nobly received him: it is more unlikely that he should give such sentiments utterance, when in distress, and taking refuge amongst them.

Before the king left Lynn, on this his last visit, he presented the corporation with a most curious cup, called at this day *King John's Cup*, a most admired piece of antiquity of silver, gilt with gold on the inside, adorned with beautiful imagery and enamelled work, in the keeping of every mayor, used on certain solemn occasions, and shewn to gentlemen as a great curiosity, in memory of their founder and great benefactor, filled with sack.

As for the sword, it is believed that the king gave none to be borne before the mayor; and Spelman has given a very good reason for it. It was, says he, an episcopal burgh, the bishop of Norwich being lord of it, and not a royal burgh or demesne, and there seems to be proof that no such insignia belonged to it in Henry IV.'s time, but was a grant from king Henry V.

The mayor is annually elected on the feast of St. John, August 29, and sworn into his office on September 29; at which time he gives an elegant entertainment to the corporation and the county gentlemen and ladies in the neighbourhood. At this feast king John's cup, after dinner, is handed to the mayor, who presents it to his predecessor; he takes off the lid, and drinks the king's health; the late mayor then places the lid on the cup, and after certain ceremonies of turning the cup round, the mayor delivers it to the late mayor, and with the same ceremonies it passes down the mayor's table; from thence
it

it is carried to the mayoreſs and the ladies. This form is alone ſanctified by cuſtom immemorial; for politeneſs would dictate to have the cup carried to the ladies firſt.

As to the ſword now carried before the mayor, and ſuppoſed to have been the gift of king John, taken from his own ſide, as the inſcription upon it imports,

Enſis hic Donum fuit Regis Joannis à ſuo ipſius latere datum.

Various are the opinions of hiſtorians, but the moſt probable is, that it was given to the corporation by king Henry VIII. when the town coming into his poſſeſſion, and ever ſince called Lynn Regis, or King's Lynn, he granted them a charter, and allowed them many privileges.

Sir Henry Spelman ſays, that he was aſſured by the town-clerk of Lynn, in the year 1630, that the ſword-bearer of Lynn in the reign of queen Elizabeth, 1580, procured the above inſcription from the ſchoolmaſter of Lynn, as one ſide of the hilt was plain, and had it engraved thereon.

It cannot be ſuppoſed that any king could wear ſuch a ſword by his ſide, but it might have been brought him, and put to his ſide, for the expreſs purpoſe of preſenting it to the mayor on ſome particular occaſion, and thereby rendering the gift more honourable to the corporation.

Befides this ſword of antiquity, four ſilver maces, gilt, are carried before the mayor on all proceſſions, and in theſe, with the ſword, the preſent regalia conſiſt.

On the 29th of August the mayor calls a hall for the election of a successor, who is chose by the common council, as the common council are by the court of aldermen; but if any dispute should arise, and the mayor should break up the hall assembly, the common council may sit down upon the steps of the hall and choose a mayor, if ten out of the eighteen are unanimous, and this election the court of aldermen cannot controvert.

The corporation consists of a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and eighteen common council men. The election for representatives in parliament is in the whole body of the freemen at large, and the mayor for the time being is returning officer.

The following is a correct list of mayors of this antient borough from Henry III. the mayors in the reign of king John being uncertain.

MAYORS, *sans* date.

R OBERT, son of	John Costyn,
Ranulph	— de St. Omer,
Gilbert,	James,
Robert,	Robert de London,
Adam L'Espie,	James de Beauvreys,
William de Carleton,	James de Bevate,

HENRY III.

A. R.		A. D.
52	_____	_____ 1268
53	_____	_____ 1269
54	Andrew _____	1270
55	James de Belvaco _____	1271
56	Robert de London _____	1272

This prince died November 26.

EDWARD

E D W A R D I.

A. R.		A. D.
1	_____	1273
2	_____	1274
3	Adam _____	1275
4	_____	1276
5	_____	1277
6	_____	1278
7	_____	1279
8	Adam de Sco' Edmundo _____	1280
9	John de Hispania _____	1281
10	William de Lindseye _____	1282
11	_____	1283
12	Adam de Sancto Ed. Homero _____	1284
13	John de St. Omer _____	1285
14	Adam de Sancto Edmundo _____	1286
15	_____	1287
16	Peter de Thurendine _____	1288
17	_____	1289
18	John de Hispania _____	1290
19	Hugh de Maffingham _____	1291
20	John de Hispania _____	1292
21	Hugh de Maffingham _____	1293
22	Thomas de Wainflet _____	1294
23	John de Merlowe _____	1295
24	— de Hispania _____	1296
25	Hugh de Maffingham _____	1297
26	Thomas de Wainflet _____	1298
27	John de Merlowe _____	1299
28	The same _____	1300
29	Richard de Gerveston _____	1301
30	John de Leycester _____	1302
31	— de Thurendine, or Thorndeyn _____	1303
32	Thomas de Wainflet _____	1304
33	Jeffrey Drew _____	1305
34	Thomas de Sedgford _____	1306

This prince died July 7.

EDWARD

E D W A R D II.

A. R.		A. D.
1	Lambert de St. Homero	1307
2	Thomas de Sedgford	1308
3	Peter de Thurendine, or Thornden	1309
4	Richard Houpman	1310
5	John de Merlowe	1311
6	Lambert de St. Homero	1312
7	The fame	1313
8	The fame	1314
9	John de Thornhegge	1315
10	The fame	1316
11	Peter de Elmham	1317
12	Robert de Walsingham	1318
13	Peter de Elmham	1319
14	John de Thornhegge	1320
15	William de Frauncys	1321
16	The fame	1322
17	John de Swerdeston	1323
18	The fame	1324
19	John de Thornhegge	1325
20	— de Burghard	1326

This prince died January 25.

E D W A R D III.

1	John de Swerdeston	1327
2	— de Maffingham, or John de Cocksford	1328
3	John de Thornhegge	1329
4	— de Swerdeston	1330
5	— de Burghard	1331
6	The fame	1332
7	William de Sedgford	1333
8	Adam de Walsoken	1334
9	William de Sedgford	1335
10	John de Swerdeston	1336
11	John de Burghard	1337
12	Thomas de Melcheburne	1338
	13 John	

OF FREE BRIDGE.

191

A. R.		A. D.
13	John de Cokesford	1339
14	William de Bruiton, or Brinton	1340
15	Hugo de Beale, or Beteley	1341
16	Adam de Walfoken	1342
17	John de Maffingham	1343
18	Thomas Drue	1344
19	John de Cokesford	1345
20	— de Swerdeston	1346
21	— de Maffingham	1347
22	— de Coutshall, and Robert de Cocking	1348
23	Robert Braunch	1349
24	Thomas Rightwis	1350
25	William de Bittering	1351
26	The fame	1352
27	The fame, and John de Coutshall	1353
28	William de Swanton	1354
29	John de Coutshall	1355
30	Thomas de Botcheffham	1356
31	John Urey	1357
32	William Bittering	1358
33	Robert Braunch	1359
34	Simon de Gunton	1360
35	Thomas Drue	1361
36	Thomas de Botcheffham	1362
37	Simon de Gunton	1363
38	John de Coutshall	1364
39	William de Bittering	1365
40	John de Fincham	1366
41	Thomas Drewe	1367
42	Thomas de Botcheffham	1368
43	John de Brunham, or Burnham	1369
44	Henry de Cove	1370
45	Jeffrey Talboth	1371
46	John de Docking	1372
47	Edmund de Fransham	1373
48	Robert Autelahe	1374

49 Richard

192 HUNDRED AND HALF

A. R.		A. D.
49	Richard Houghton	1375
50	John de Fincham	1376
<i>This Prince died June 21.</i>		

RICHARD II.

1	John de Brunham	1377
2	The same	1378
3	Jeffrey Talboth	1379
4	John Warryn	1380
5	Roger Paxman	1381
6	Henry Betele	1382
7	Thomas Curshon, or Curfon	1383
8	John Warryn	1384
9	— de Brunham	1385
10	— de Warryn	1386
11	Thomas de Coutshall	1387
12	Roger Paxman	1388
13	Thomas de Coutshall	1389
14	Edmund Belletere	1390
15	John de Brunham	1391
16	Thomas Drue	1392
17	— Coutshall	1393
18	Edmund Belletere	1394
19	Robert Botehesham	1395
20	John Wace	1396
21	Thomas Waterden	1397
22	— Drue	1398

This Prince died September 29.

HENRY IV.

1	Edmund Belletere	1399
2	John de Wentworth	1400
3	The same	1401
4	Thomas Briggé	1402
5	Robert Botehesham	1403
6	Thomas Waterden	1404
7	John	

OF FREEBRIDGE.

193

A. R.

A. D.

7	John de Wentworth	—	1405
8	Robert de Brunham	—	1406
9	Thomas Brigge	—	1407
10	John Brandon	—	1408
11	The same	—	1409
12	Robert de Botchesham	—	1410
13	Roger Gallyon	—	1411
14	Bartholomew Pettipas	—	1412

This Prince died March 20.

HENRY V.

1	Bartholomew Pettipas	—	1413
2	John Lakenhithe, <i>obt.</i> Robert Brunham	—	1414
3	Thomas Hunt	—	1415
4	John Weafenham	—	1416
5	William Hunderpound	—	1417
6	Thomas Hunt	—	1418
7	John Weafenham	—	1419
8	— Spicer	—	1420
9	The same	—	1421

This Prince died August 31.

HENRY VI.

1	John Spicer	—	1422
2	— Permenter	—	1423
3	The same	—	1424
4	John Thorisby	—	1425
5	Philip Frank	—	1426
6	John Permenter	—	1427
7	The same	—	1428
8	Richard Waterden, <i>ob.</i> John Weafenham	—	1429
9	Thomas Warstead	—	1430
10	John Permenter	—	1431
11	— Breckupp, or Brighteyve	—	1432
12	Thomas Botchesham	—	1433
13	— Burgh	—	1434

P +

14 John

194 HUNDRED AND HALF

A. R.		A. D.
14	John Waryn	1435
15	William Palmer, ob. John Permenter	1436
16	Thomas Salisbury	1437
17	The fame	1438
18	Henry Thorisby	1439
19	John Afshenden	1440
20	Sim. Scotland	1441
21	Henry Thorisby	1442
22	The fame	1443
23	William Kirton, ob. John Waryn	1444
24	Thomas Salisbury	1445
25	John Pygot	1446
26	Sim. Scotland	1447
27	Thomas Talboth	1448
28	Richard Frank	1449
29	William Lewis	1450
30	The fame	1451
31	John Gedneye	1452
32	Walter Cony	1453
33	Sim. Pygot	1454
34	— Scotland	1455
35	Henry Thorisby	1456
36	Thomas Talboth	1457
37	John Nicholson	1458
38	The fame	1459
39	Walter Cony	1460

This Prince died March 4.

E D W A R D IV.

1	William Pilton	1461
2	Sim. Baxter	1462
3	Edmund Westhorpe	1463
4	William Cawes	1464
5	The fame	1465
6	Henry Birmingham	1466
7	Ralph Geyton	1467

8-William

O F F R E E B R I D G E. 195

A. R.		A. D.
8	William Pilton — —	1468
9	Walter Cony — —	1469
10	Edmund Westhorpe — —	1470
11	Henry Bermingham — —	1471
12	The same — —	1472
13	William Wales — —	1473
14	Walter Cony — —	1474
15	William Nicholson — —	1475
16	Thomas Leighton — —	1476
17	—— Thorisby — —	1477
18	Edmund Westhorpe — —	1478
19	John Burbage — —	1479
20	William Marsh — —	1480
21	The same — —	1481
22	Thomas Thorisby — —	1482

This Prince died April 9,

E D W A R D V.

This Prince died June 22,

R I C H A R D III.

1	Robert Pilly — —	1483
2	Thomas Wright — —	1484

This Prince died November 22,

H E N R Y VII.

1	John Tilly — —	1485
2	Richard Goodwyn — —	1486
3	Robert Pilly — —	1487
4	John Tego — —	1488
5	—— Gryndell — —	1489
6	The same — —	1490
7	Robert Powditch — —	1491
8	Thomas Wright — —	1492
9	Edward Rowfey — —	1493

A. R.		A. D.
10	William Amflys	1494
11	The same	1495
12	John Palmer	1496
13	Robert Trew	1497
14	John Taylour	1498
15	Thomas Deye	1499
16	Andrew Wuley	1500
17	Sim. Baxter	1501
18	Thomas Thorisby	1502
19	John Palmer	1503
20	William Trew	1504
21	William Gervy	1505
22	Andrew Wuley	1506
23	Robert Gerves	1507
24	John Burdy	1508

This Prince died April 22.

H E N R Y VIII.

1	John Grendell	1509
2	Thomas Wych	1510
3	The same	1511
4	John Davy	1512
5	Richard Bewfhere	1513
6	Robert Soame	1514
7	John Grendell, fen.	1515
8	Robert Amflet, fen.	1516
9	Thomas Leighton	1517
10	William Gerves, alias Castle	1518
11	Robert Gerves	1519
12	Thomas Miller or Milner	1520
13	The same	1521
14	The same	1522
15	The same	1523
16	John Grendell	1524
17	Thomas Leighton	1525
18	Christopher Brokebank	1526

19 Robert

OF FREEBRIDGE.

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A. R.

A. D.

19	Robert Soame	_____	1527
20	John Water	_____	1528
21	Thomas Miller	_____	1529
22	Richard Bewshere	_____	1530
23	John Power	_____	1531
24	Robert Amfles	_____	1532
25	_____ Parmytour	_____	1533
26	_____ Seagrave	_____	1534
27	Thomas Water	_____	1535
28	_____ Leighton	_____	1536
29	William Hall	_____	1537
30	Richard Bewshere	_____	1538
31	William Hall	_____	1539
32	Edward Baker, <i>ob.</i>	Edward Newton	1540
33	Henry Duplack	_____	1541
34	William Kenette	_____	1542
35	Richard Hunstan	_____	1543
36	Robert Soame	_____	1544
37	Jeffrey Steele, <i>alias</i> Style	_____	1545
38	Thomas Miller	_____	1546

This Prince died January 28.

EDWARD VI.

1	William Overend	_____	1547
2	John Macanter	_____	1548
3	Ralph Downes	_____	1549
4	Edward Baker	_____	1550
5	Thomas Waters	_____	1551
6	Greg. Revely	_____	1552

This Prince died July 6.

Queen MARY.

1	Robert Palmer	_____	1553
2	Henry Duplack	_____	1554
3	Robert Mowthe	_____	1555
4	Ralph Downes	_____	1556
			5 Henry

A. R.		A. D.
5	Henry Bleisby, <i>ob.</i> William Overend, <i>ob.</i> or Overton	1557
6	William Overton, <i>ob.</i> Thomas Waters	1558
	<i>This princefs died November 17.</i>	

Queen E L I Z A B E T H.

1	Robert Gervis, <i>ob.</i> Christopher Graunt	1559
2	John Pell	1560
3	— Macanter	1561
4	— Kynne	1562
5	— Grebby	1563
6	Robert Hulyer	1564
7	Richard Spence	1565
8	Robert Gervis	1566
9	Thomas Grave	1567
10	Greg. Baker	1568
11	Francis Shaxton	1569
12	Edward Waters	1570
13	Robert Hulyer	1571
14	John Kynne, <i>ob.</i> John Grebby	1572
15	Thomas Clayborne	1573
16	— Grave	1574
17	Christopher Graunt	1575
18	Gregory Baker	1576
19	John Ditchfield	1577
20	Robert Hulyer	1578
21	Thomas Overend	1579
22	Francis Shaxton	1580
23	William Killingtree	1581
24	John Grebby	1582
25	Richard Clarke	1583
26	Thomas Grave	1584
27	Robert Hulyer	1585
28	Thomas Boston	1586
29	— Sendyll	1587
30	John Nelson	1588

OF FREEBRIDGE.

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A. R.		A. D.
31	Seth Hawley	1589
32	Henry Vilett	1590
33	Peter Cartwright	1591
34	Thomas Clayborne	1592
35	William Gurlyn	1593
36	Thomas Boston	1594
37	William Hoo	1595
38	John Bassett	1596
39	Seth Hawley	1597
40	Thomas Baker	1598
41	Henry Vilett	1599
42	William Gurlyn	1600
43	Thomas Sandill	1601
44	Thomas Gibson	1602

This Princess died March 24.

JAMES I.

1	John Spence	1603
2	—— Kercher	1604
3	Matthew Clarke	1605
4	John Clarke	1606
5	—— Atkin	1607
6	Thomas Sandyll	1608
7	John Wallys	1609
8	—— Bassett	1610
9	Thomas Soame	1611
10	—— Gibson	1612
11	Matthew Clarke	1613
12	John Spencer	1614
13	—— Atkin	1615
14	—— Wallis	1616
15	Richard Stonham	1617
16	William Doughty	1618
17	—— Atkin	1619
18	Thomas Soame	1620
19	Thomas Gurlyn	1621

20 Thomas

A. R.		A. D.
20	Thomas Snelling, <i>ob.</i> John Wallis	1622
21	Edward Hargrave	1623
22	Gregory Gurnall	1624

This Prince died March 27.

C H A R L E S I.

1	William Doughty	1625
2	Thomas Grinnell	1626
3	Joshua Greene	1627
4	Thomas Mylner	1628
5	—— Soame	1629
6	John Perceval	1630
7	—— Wallis	1631
8	Bartholomew Wormell	1632
9	William Doughty	1633
10	Thomas Gurlyn	1634
11	John May	1635
12	Thomas Grinnell	1636
13	Joshua Greene	1637
14	Thomas Mylner, <i>ob.</i> John Perceval	1638
15	Thomas Toll	1639
16	William Doughty	1640
17	Thomas Nelson	1641
18	Thomas Gurlyn	1642
19	Edmund Hudson	1643
20	John May	1644
21	Edward Robinson	1645
22	Thomas Toll	1646
23	Elias Porter	1647
24	Thomas Slany, <i>ob.</i> Nathaniel Maxey	1648

Decollatur January 30.

C H A R L E S II.

1	Thomas Revet	1649
2	Bartholomew Wormell	1650
3	Jonas Scott	1651
	4 Joshua	

A. R.		A. D.
4	Joshua Greene	1652
5	John Baffett	1653
6	Thomas Greene	1654
7	_____ Toll	1655
8	Robert Thorrowgood	1656
9	Benjamin Holly	1657
10	Henry Bell	1658
11	Joshua Green	1659
12	John Baffet	1660
13	Walter Kirby	1661
14	John Bird	1662
15	William Wharton	1663
16	Thomas Greene	1664
17	Benjamin Holly	1665
18	Matthias Twells	1666
19	Thomas Robinfon	1667
20	Walter Kirby	1668
21	Edmund Abbot	1669
22	Henry Bell	1670
23	Daniel Goodwin	1671
24	Seth Hawley	1672
25	John Hamond	1673
26	Thomas Greene, <i>ob.</i> Simon Taylor	1674
27	Edward Bromly	1675
28	Thomas Thetford	1676
29	Arthur Eveling	1677
30	John Turner	1678
31	Gyles Bridgman	1679
32	Edmund Taffell	1680
33	Simon Taylor	1681
34	Henry Chennery	1682
35	Benjamin Keene	1683
36	Edmund Hooke	1684
37	Edward Bodham	1685

This Prince died February 6.

JAMES II.

A. R.		A. D.
1	John Kidd	1686
2	Robert Sparrow, <i>expelled per mandate.</i> John Davy	1687
3	Cyprian Anderson	1688
4	Robert Payne	1689

This Prince abdicated.

WILLIAM III.

1	Henry Framingham	1690
2	William Linstead, <i>ob.</i> Sir John Turner	1691
3	Henry Bell	1692
4	William Holly	1693
5	Charles Turner	1694
6	Edmund Hooke	1695
7	Robert Sparrow	1696
8	John Kidd	1697
9	Cyprian Anderson	1698
10	Robert Awborn	1699
11	Henry Framingham	1700

This Prince died March 1.

Queen ANNE.

1	Benjamin Keen	1701
2	John Turner	1702
3	Henry Bell	1703
4	John Turner	1704
5	Charles Whaits	1705
6	John Turner	1706
7	William Holly, <i>ob.</i> Robert Awborn	1707
8	Henry Chennery	1708
9	John Greene	1709
10	— Berney	1710
11	— Bagge	1711
12	Charles Greene	1712
13	Edmund Rolfe	1713

This Princess died August 1.

G E O R G E I.

A. R.		A. D.
1	Charles Keen	1714
2	John Turner	1715
3	Samuel Browne	1716
4	James Boardman	1717
5	Daniel Scarlet	1718
6	Thomas Robotom	1719
7	Edmund Rolfe	1720
8	John Goodwin	1721
9	Richard Harwick	1722
10	William Allen	1723
11	John Turner, jun.	1724
12	— Weblin	1725
13	— Kidd	1726

This Prince died June 11.

G E O R G E II.

1	Thomas Allen	1727
2	John Goodwyn	1728
3	Andrew Taylor	1729
4	Charles Harwick	1730
5	John Bagge	1731
6	John Farthing	1732
7	Samuel Browne	1733
8	John Turner, fen.	1734
9	William Exton	1735
10	John Goodwyn, jun.	1736
11	John Turner, jun.	1737
12	John Goodwyn, fen.	1738
13	William Bagge	1739
14	John Cary	1740
15	Samuel Browne, ob. Benjamin Nuthall	1741
16	Edward Everard	1742
17	Thomas Sommerlby	1743
18	Walter Kirby	1744
19	Philip Cafe	1745

A. R.	A. D.
20 Andrew Pigge	1746
21 Walter Robertfon	1747
22 Sir John Turner	1748
23 John Goodwyn	1749
24 William Exton	1750
25 William Bagge	1751
26 William Mixfon	1752
27 John Wilfon	1753
28 John Cary	1754
29 William Langley	1755
30 George Patterfon	1756
31 Benjamin Nuthall	1757
32 Edward Everard	1758
33 Charles Turner	1759
34 Thomas Sommerfby	1760

This Prince died October 25.

G E O R G E III.

1 Walter Robertfon	1761
2 Thomas Alderfon	1762
3 James Robertfon	1763
4 Philip Cafe	1764
5 John Cary	1765
6 William Langley	1766
7 Charles Turner	1767
8 Sir John Turner	1768
9 Samuel Browne	1769
10 George Hogg	1770
11 Maxey Allen	1771
12 Edward Everard	1772
13 Thomas Sommerfby, jun.	1773
14 John Cary, jun.	1774
15 William Bagge	1775
16 Thomas Alderfon	1776
17 Philip Cafe	1777
18 Thomas Bagge	1778

Lynn

Lynn was always a town of great commerce, as it is at this day: the harbour is capable of containing two hundred ships. It has been also a place of great strength, and is capable of being made so now. It is fortified by a deep ditch, and walls for the greatest part of it, and there are remains of entrenchments all around it. Preparatory to the restoration of king Charles II. it was fortified afresh by sir Horatio Townshend, ancestor to the present lord viscount Townshend, of Rainham, who was created a baron by king Charles II. for his loyal services, by the stile and title of baron of King's Lynn, to which the motto born in their arms by this noble family alludes:

"Hæc Generi Incrementa Fides."

In the grand rebellion against Charles I. in the year 1643, the mayor and burgesses defended the town against the earl of Manchester for some time, and held it for the king against an army of eighteen thousand men, and sustained a siege of three weeks with great bravery; but not being supported by the earl of Newcastle, who lay near Lincoln with an equal number of troops, and having applied to him in vain for relief, they were obliged to surrender and make the best terms they could. It does not appear that the garrison, which consisted of the burgesses and inhabitants, reinforced by the country gentlemen in the neighbourhood, with eight troops of horse and eight companies of foot, could amount to more than five thousand men in arms.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH and PRIORY.

This church and priory were founded by Herbert bishop of Norwich, in the reign of king William II. and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, St. Margaret, and all the maiden saints. In the register of Hoxne priory, in Suffolk, it appears by the deed and grant of this bishop, that the said church and priory were built by him at the request of the men of the town of Lynn, and to perform this the better, he granted an indulgence of forty days pardon to all who should contribute to it; appointed that all tithes and ecclesiastical dues of the whole village, should be paid to this church, which he appropriated to the priory, and had it confirmed by the pope.

This priory was subordinate to the priory of the Holy Trinity at Norwich, founded also by Herbert, and was a cell to it.

This being made a cell to the priory of Norwich, that house appointed a monk of their body to be prior here at Lynn, who appears to be responsible to the priory of Norwich for the rents and profits he received, and seems to be removable at pleasure.

John de Grey, bishop of Norwich, confirmed to the monks of Norwich, the church of St. Margaret, with the chapel of St. James and St. Nicholas, and the church at Mintling, and his tithes of Gaywood, &c.

The priory of St. Margaret's was on the south side of St. Margaret's church. After the dissolution of it, it was partly pulled down, to enlarge the church-yard: part of it is still standing, and the lane adjoining retains the name of the Priory Lane.

John

John de Grey, bishop of Norwich, by deed dated on the same day and year with the exchange of lands between him and the prior and convent of Norwich, appropriated the church of St. Margaret to the convent of Norwich, viz.

OMNIB; sanctæ ecclesiæ matris filijs, Johannis De gratia Norwicensis episcopus, salutem: Noverit universitas vestra nos divinæ pietatis intuitu concessisse, et p'senti charta confirmasse dilectis filiis Manachis Norwic. ecclesiam Stæ. Margaretæ de Lenn, cum omnib; spiritualib; ad eam pertinentib; tam in decimis, quam in oblationib; et alijs omnib; obventionib; spiritualib; cum capellis suis, scil. St. Jacobi et St. Nicolaj, in proprios usus in perpetuum possidendam, &c. Et ecclesiam de Mintling, cum omnib; ad eam pertinentib; et omnes decimas de dominio nostro de Gaywood, præter illas quæ ad ecclesiam Stæ Fidis de Gaywood pertinent, ita ut faciant in prædictis ecclesijs et capellis ministrari competenter p. capellanos suos, p. rationabili voluntate sua amovendos et admittendos, et ita qd. nulli, nisi soli episcopo in curia sua propria si voluerit and usus suos (sicuti in alijs manerijs suis habet) liceat infra parochias p'dictar. ecclesiarum de Lenn et Mintling, capellam aliquam præter auctoritatem episcopalem, & consensum prioris et conventus monachor. et si quæ constructa fuerit in proprios usus cedat monachorum.

The church of St. Margaret was built, probably, on the scite of some old church there, but whether that old church was also dedicated to St. Margaret is not certain.

An order from the mayor, &c. anno 36th of Henry VI. to build the bell tower of St. Margaret's church.

The impropriation of this church being purchased by the corporation of Lynn, from the bishoprick of Norwich, at the general dissolution of the monasteries, there is now no revenue belonging to it, save only some few annuities, which are applied to the repairs thereof, and are as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
An annuity granted to this church by the corporation - - -	3	6	8
Another granted out of Paradise Garden	6	0	0
Another granted out of certain houses at the north end of Codlin Lane -	0	6	8
Another granted out of certain tenements near Littleport Bridge, (now demolished) the gift of Mr. Kennet, to the church - - - -	0	5	0

Notwithstanding this the dean and chapter of Norwich still retain their ancient right, and privileges as formerly, of presenting a curate or minister to this church, who as such, is obliged to perform, or cause to be performed, all divine offices, both here and at the chapel, for which services he is entitled to receive the surplice fees for christenings, marriages, burials, &c. as also all other perquisites thereunto belonging, as herbage, dolefish, &c.

But the preachers (who are stiled and accounted lecturers) are chosen and appointed by the corporation, who generously allow to each a certain salary of 100l. per ann. which is paid them by the chamberlain for the time being, without any trouble or incumbrance whatsoever: and note, they have this further advantage in it, which makes it the more valuable, that this preferment does no ways disqualify or incapacitate them from holding other livings, with the cure of souls.

The

The present lecturers are the Rev. Charles Bagge, D. D. and the Rev. Briggs Cary, who alternately preach every Sunday at St. Margaret's and the chapel of St. Nicholas.

St. Margaret's church before the year 1741, was one of the largest parochial churches in England, having a nave and three very spacious isles; with a lanthorn over the cross isle: there were two towers, one of which was ornamented with a lofty spire, the other contained a ring of eight bells. This last tower is still remaining, but the spire was blown down in a violent gale of wind in September 1741, and falling upon the body of the church destroyed the middle isle, leaving the chancel only standing. This spire was two hundred and fifty-eight feet high, and the breadth of the old church was one hundred and thirty-two feet. The church is rebuilt, but the new church is contracted; there are still three isles, and a handsome gallery over the north isle. A new organ has been erected at the west end, with many harmonious stops in it, one in particular a *vox humana*.

Having said thus much with respect to this great parochial church in particular, we come now to those monumental inscriptions and funeral epitaphs which were extant in and about the quire, side isles, and chapels, anno 1725. Notwithstanding, we cannot but regret the loss of so many beautiful, rich, and costly pourtraitures in brass fixed here upon the graves and tombstones of our ancestors, in order to perpetuate their memories to posterity, which have been so impiously and sacrilegiously torn away and defaced, of which some few now only remain, not unworthy the observation of the curious, for exquisite and rare workmanship of fine engraven figures,
and

and other decorations delineated thereupon, and those only but five in number,

And we cannot omit taking notice of one remarkable article which we meet with in the church-wardens account for the year 1645, where it is thus inserted, viz. “ Item, to William King for defacing “ superstitious epitaphs, 5s.” Too great a reward for so bad a service.

The CHARNELL HALL.

On the north side of the church-yard stands an ancient pile, a chapel, adjoining to the west end of the north isle of the old church of St. Margaret; the upper part of this pile was a chapel, and the lower part a charnel house, where the bones taken out, on the digging of the many graves were deposited. Every abbey and priory seems to have had one belonging to them, and a chapel over it as at Norwich, &c. The upper part, or chapel, was turned at the dissolution into a free school, and so continues.

On an inquisition taken, in the 3d of Elizabeth, by certain commissioners, the jury present, that there was a charnel house in St. Margaret's church-yard, which is now a school-house; the founders thereof were Thomas Thurfbye, Walter Coney, and ——— Locke, merchants of the said town, but to what use it was founded they knew not; to which there belonged one bell, taken down by the mayor since the death of Henry VIII. in what year they knew not; and that there did belong to the charnel house, certain lands and tenements, lying and being in King's Lynn, Wiggenhall St. Mary, and Gaywood, in the tenure of divers men, whose names they knew not, to the value of 10l. per ann.

This

This jury may with great propriety be said to have found an *ignoramus*.

TRINITY CHAPEL, in St. Margaret's Church.

On the north side of the chancel of St. Margaret's church is the chapel of the Holy Trinity, belonging to the guild or fraternity of the Holy Trinity.

In the 26th of Henry VI. this guild had a patent for a messuage and seven acres of meadow in South Lynn.

St. NICHOLAS's CHAPEL.

This chapel of St. Nicholas is supposed to have been founded by Turbus, or de Turbe, bishop of Norwich, in the reign of king Stephen, who, after it was built and consecrated, gave it to the monks of the priory of Norwich cathedral, with all its profits.

The chapel of St. Nicholas is one of the largest chapels in England, as large as most parochial churches: it has three isles, from east to west is two hundred feet long, and in breadth seventy-eight. It has a tower with a ring of eight bells, and, like St. Margaret's, was ornamented with a lofty spire, which shared the same fate with the spire of St. Margaret's, and on the very same day, in September 1741, but being lighter, or falling in a different direction, did not equally damage the body of the chapel.

St. NICHOLAS's CHAPEL and St. GEORGE's GUILD.

In the mayoralty of Jeffrey Talb, 1374, the pope's bull was granted to build this chapel.

In

In this chapel was the guild of St. George. To this guild the jurors report, in the 3d of Elizabeth, that there appertaineth a hall, called St. George's Hall, with house and buildings thereunto annexed, with certain tenements, cellars, curtilages, and gardens to the same belonging, lying and being in King's Lynn aforefaid, in the tenure of the mayor and brethren of the said town, to the yearly value of 40s.

Item. There did belong to the said guild sixteen acres of pasture in Wiggenhall St. Peter's, late in the tenure of William Pers, to the yearly value of 40s.

Item. More in Wiggenhall St. Mary's, twelve acres and an half of pasture, in the tenure of Thomas Fenne, to the value of 30s. by the year.

Item. There belongs to this chapel a great bell, containing by estimation twenty hundred weight.

Item. There doth belong to the said chapel certain houses, lands, tenements, and pastures, lying and being in the said town of King's Lynn and Gaywood, to the yearly rent of 6l. 6s. 8d. in whose tenure we know not, nor to what use they were given.

That this chapel was an ancient one, appears by king John's appropriating St. Margaret's church, with this chapel, to the monks of the cathedral of Norwich. An ancient deed was executed in it, of which the following is an authentic copy.

Ego Lemarus de Walpole, et Beatrix uxor mea, dedimus et concessimus priori de Lewis et conventui suo, &c. et ad hanc venditionem; firmiter et inconcusse tenendum

et

et contra natos et non natos warrantizandum, primo in ecclesiæ St. Nicholai de Lenne in manu Herberti de Hellingeat affidamus, et postea in camiterio St. Jacobi de Acre, sup. quatuor. Evangelia juravimus.

John Alcock, bishop of Ely, June 3, 1490, granted forty days pardon, or indulgence, to all the brethren and sisters of the guild of St. Etheldreda, in St. Nicholas's chapel of Lynn, at the altar of St. Etheldreda the most holy virgin, there founded, and to all who should hear mass at the said altar, and to all who said *quinquies* before the said altar, the Lord's Prayer, and the Salutation *quinquies*.

Henry IV. by his letters patent, gave and granted licence to John Brandon, Bartholomew Siftern, and John Snailwell, of Lenne Episcopi, that they might make, found, and establish to the honour of God, and the glorious martyr St. George, a certain fraternity, brotherhood, and perpetual guild of themselves and others, who out of their devotion were willing to be of the said fraternity and guild: and that brothers and sisters of the fraternity and guild, for the time being, might choose, make and ordain, one alderman and four custodes of the said fraternity and guild, yearly, for the good and profit of the same, and out of the brethren of the said fraternity and guild; and that the said alderman and custodes, and their successors, by the names of the alderman and custodes of the said guild, should have power, and be able to take, receive, and hold any lands, tenements, rents, and possessions whatsoever, or should be by any ways or means granted to them, and to do in all other respects, &c. and to act as the rest of his liege subjects, or persons do, and have power, and are enabled to act.

Many

Many other grants of lands and tenements were given by Henry V. and king Edward VI. when he granted, the 21st of May, in his 2^d year, and Thomas Leyton, alderman, to the mayor and burgessees the lands, tenements, &c. belonging to the guild of the Holy Trinity, granted also to the mayor, &c. one capital messuage or hall, called St. George's Hall, with the houses, &c. thereunto annexed.

This St. George's Hall was a long time used as a court to hold the quarter sessions in for the peace of the county of Norfolk, but of late years it has been converted into a theatre, and is lett to a company of comedians who perform in it annually at the time of the mart, which is proclaimed Feb. 14, and by the charter of king Henry VIII. who granted it, is to continue for six days after. The comedians however, are usually permitted to make a longer stay in the town. The booths of the London tradesmen, erected in the market-place annually during the mart, are not allowed to remain standing above fourteen days, as being thought to injure the trade of the inhabitants.

This mart is annually proclaimed on Feb. 14, in great form, the mayor and corporation attending, when the town-clerk reads the charter, and the booths are immediately opened. The mayor afterwards gives an entertainment at the town-hall. King Hen. VIII. granted to the corporation another annual fair on July 16, which was afterwards revoked.

St. FABIAN's and SEBASTIAN's GUILD.

This little society had an alderman to preside over it, and met usually once or twice a year to dine and sup together; but little of their customs is known with

with certainty at this day, or what their benefactions and contributions were.

Concerning the Antiquity of St. NICHOLAS's
CHAPEL.

We can neither speak positively as to the founder of this chapel, nor the precise time of its foundation and building, as is much to be wished; but thus far we may reasonably conclude, that without all doubt it must be above four hundred years standing, if the following evidences may be allowed of.

First, it is very remarkable that upon the front, on the top of the porch, which is the only one, but that very neat, adjoining to this sacred structure, are placed the figures of a lion and an eagle, cut in stone, and fixed on pedestals, the two supporters of the arms of king Edward III. which, if we may be permitted to conjecture, gives some reason to believe that this chapel was first founded before, or at least finished in some part of that king's reign, which began in 1326, and continued above fifty years.

Secondly, again we find here the sepulture and interment of William de Bittering, (who was divers times mayor of this corporation in that king's reign) together with his wife Julian, to be both in this chapel, in the south isle towards the east, under a very large fair stone, ten feet long and six broad, all covered over with brass, having their effigies cut in the middle upon the same, neatly engraven and embellished with fine decorations round the verge, which is still to be seen almost entire, and whose mark or symbol (which we find in divers places on the plate of his tombstone) is also still remaining, fairly depicted or stained, in a south window near his grave.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, Moreover 'tis recorded that in the year 1379, pope Urban VI. sent his bull hither (which was received with great veneration) to authorise and allow the baptising of infants and other adult persons in this chapel, which before were always initiated in the parish church of St. Margaret: that part of the old font called the basin, then made use of in this holy place, (before the erecting that now standing, granted and consecrated by S. Harpell, D. D. and bishop of Norwich, in the year 1627, and which resembles that at St. Margaret's) we are inclined to believe is the same which we observed to lie upon the ground (with the pedestal at some distance from it) among the rubbish and lumber, in a certain place on the north side of the quire, perhaps formerly some oratory, chapel, or chauntry.

It is of free-stone, one hundred and sixty-four inches in diameter, upon the superficies within the verge, and nine inches deep perpendicular from the bottom, carved on the outside.

Lastly, the fourth and last evidence which offers itself to our observation, concerning the antiquity of this elegant chapel, though of much later date, is that some time since, in a window next to the north door, we found there the year of our Lord, fairly depicted or stained in the glass, in very beautiful and yellow characters, but it is now demolished and gone, notwithstanding having taken care to preserve a transcript of it, we have endeavoured to imitate it as near as we could, and given you as follows:

Anno Dom. m. cccc. xiii.

ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL.

In the certificate and presentment of William Butts, Christopher Walpole, gent. &c. taken the 29th of September, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, before sir Nicholas L'Estrange, knt. Thomas Guybon, Henry Mynn, and Henry Spelman, esq. commissioners to the queen, the jurors find that there was a chapel dedicated to St. James, then defaced by the mayor and his brethren, saving one cross isle, which was then re-edifying and repairing by the mayor of the said town; which chapel contained in length five score feet, and in breadth twenty-four feet; the cemetary or church-yard of the said chapel containeth three acres, and is used to bury the dead: it was a chapel of ease, and the founder thereof was bishop of Norwich, whose name we know not; there did belong to it four bells, taken down by the mayor of the town since the death of Henry VIII. but in what year we know not, which were worth by estimation, with the bell of the chancel house, ccl.

This chapel of St. James being in part demolished, the spire and part of the stone tower taken off, and the rest becoming ruinous, in the 22d of queen Elizabeth the body of it was quite pulled down, and the cross isle and chancel were fitted up for a workhouse for the poor, for dressing hemp, and making strings and towes for fishermen, and other manufactures. The building lay afterwards a long time neglected, but by the liberal benefactions of the mayor, burgeses, and principal inhabitants, was rebuilt, and again converted into a workhouse or hospital, as it continues at this day, under the direction of the corporation, and one of the aldermen is always guardian or governor, as settled by the act of

the 12th of William III. Upon a frontispiece is this inscription:

*Ruinis
Capellæ St. Jacobi
Orphano trophium Hoc
Erexit
S. P. Q. L.
Simone Tayler Majore.*

It is now commonly called the Spinning House.

The arms of queen Elizabeth, a lion and dragon, supporters, now over the town hall, were taken from this chapel.

In this town there were formerly many priories, oratories, and religious houses for Friars, Carmelites, or White Friars, in South Lynn, the church of which still remains, and is used as a parish church: Black Friars, Dominicans, Augustin Friars, Grey Friars, all which came hither about the reign of king Henry III. and settled here, building themselves convents in several parts of the town; but they are now almost all demolished, excepting a lofty hexangular tower of the Grey Friars, opposite the free grammar school-house in Mixson's street, so called from many new buildings erected by the late William Mixson, esq. mayor of Lynn, a magistrate of an open and enlarged mind, and a merchant of extensive knowledge in trade. This tower of the Grey Friars is at this day an useful sea-mark for guiding ships into the harbour.

Near the walls of this town are the remains of an ancient oratory, with several vaults and cavities under ground, commonly called the Lady's Mount,

as being dedicated to the Virgin Mary; or the Red Mount, where the pilgrims to the holy wells and monastery of our Lady, of Walsingham, used to pay their devotions.

The names of these religious houses, for most of them are destroyed or defaced, are as follows:

Our LADY's CHAPEL on the Bridge,

ST. CATHERINE's CHAPEL,

Our LADY on the Mount,

ST. ANN's CHAPEL,

(Near which is a fort still remaining, mounted till lately with cannon, to command the entrance of the harbour.)

HERMITAGE or LYNN CROUC.

CORPUS CHRISTI GUILD.

ST. JOHN's CHAPEL.

TRINITY GUILD, or the MERCHANT's
GUILD.

It was called the Great Guild of the Holy Trinity in Lynn, in respect to other less guilds in the said town. The head or chief person of this guild was stiled the alderman or custos, and was chose by the commonalty of the said town, and continued so on that choice for life, unless upon account of some very great infirmity or inability, or some other reasonable cause he was set aside and removed.

This guild had many grants and possessions, amongst the rest the common staith; and the mayor and aldermen for the time being had the govern-

ment of this community, as expressed by the letters patent of Henry III.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S HOSPITAL, on the causeway between Gaywood and Lynn.

This ancient hospital was founded by one Petrus Capellanus, in the reign of king Stephen, in honour of St. Mary Magdalen, and consisted of a prior, twelve brethren and sisters, in all thirteen; of whom ten (the prior being one) were found, and three unfound, or leprous; some ecclesiastical and some secular, bound to perform superstitious rites, and prayers for the souls of men departed this life, viz. for the soul of Petrus Capellanus their founder, the souls of popes, bishops, abbots, priors, kings, queens, and others their benefactors, as appear by their antient books of *Obits* and *Orisons*, and by the antient instrument of articles which the brethren and sisters were bound to observe. And all or most of the lands given to the said hospital, were for the maintaining of prayers for the dead, as appears by divers deeds and charters, without date, of the first donations of the said lands.

Petrus Capellanus, their founder, died upon St. Paul's day, being the 25th of January, anno 1174, in the 20th of Henry II.

This hospital is under the direction of the mayor and corporation, and is kept in good repair by them for the maintenance and support of poor women, elected into it at their discretion upon every vacancy that occurs.

LYNN

LYNN DEANERY,

Was in the patronage of the bishop of Norwich, who had a house at Lynn.

The bishop's house stood on the sea bank, near the chapel of St. Nicholas.

The BISHOP's HIGH STEWARD,

Was an office of the bishop, granted by patent. In the Saxon age he was called *Capitalis Senescallus Episcopi*, and as such received all the revenues of the bishop, held all the courts belonging to his lordships, and passed the accounts of the inferior officers, as bailiffs, &c. He often sat in court with the mayor, on trials, and grants of places, and officers in the town, &c. who was often sworn by him, &c. and it was held by the bishop till Henry VIII.'s charter to the town, when it was granted to the corporation. The like office at Yarmouth and Norwich; and other corporations have the said office.

The right honourable the earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county, is the present high steward of Lynn Regis, 1778.

LYNN CHARTERS.

I. The first charter of liberties granted to the town was by king John, at Lutgershall, 14 September, *anno reg. sui* 6, 1204.

II. The second was that of king Henry III. his son, dated at Westminster the 6th of February, *anno reg sui* 17, which fully confirms what his father had granted: this was 1233.

R 3

III. The

III. The third was that of the aforefaid king Henry III. dated at Weftminfter the 26th of March, *anno reg. fui* 52, wherein he not only confirms all former grants, but further, for the laudable and faithful service and valiant affiftance, (as the words are) which the burgeffes of Lynn had done for him in his troubles and civil wars, granted them by this charter, to choofe themfelves a mayor, inftead of their *prepoſitus*, which was *anno Dom.* 1268.

This charter was firſt founded upon biſhop John de Grey, and the dean and chapter's charter of Norwich, for a mayor, and was confirmed by king Henry III. aforefaid.

The firſt mayor, by this charter, was elected into that office on St. Michael's day, *anno Dom.* 1268.

Having done with the religious houſes and eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, we come now to a deſcription of other remarkable buildings in this large and populous town, ſituated on the eaſt ſide of the river Oufe, and by much the moſt conſiderable of all the towns of the *Iceni*, Norwich alone excepted. It extends about a mile and a quarter from north to ſouth, and is half a mile broad from the eaſt gate to the river, or channel, which is the broadest part; contains about three thouſand houſes, and near fifteen thouſand inhabitants.

The river, at ſpring tides, flows more than twenty feet perpendicular, and if at thoſe times there happens to be a north-eaſt wind, it brings the tide up with ſuch rapidity, as to force the ſhips from their moorings, though they lie at ten miles diſtance from the ocean, and has been known to flow a conſiderable way into the Tueſday market-place, which is a
ſpacious

spacious square area of three acres, having, on an ascent of four steps, a very handsome market cross of free-stone, of modern architecture, adorned with statues and other embellishments, with a peristyle round below, supported by sixteen pillars of the Ionic order; as also another walk above, encompassed with an iron pallisade, enriched with curious tracery work and foliage, inclosing a neat octangular room: the upper part is finished with a cupola and turret, wherein hangs the market bell, the whole being about seventy feet in height. On each side stand, in a semicircular form, the butchers shambles in two divisions, the frontispieces being supported with Doric columns, and the pediments enriched with a decoration of paintings appropriated to the subject; and behind is another building, erected and fitted for a fish-market, which, with some handsome houses inclosing all behind, form the whole into an agreeable and charming prospect.

St. Margaret was the tutelary saint and patroness of this town, and accordingly the corporation has for its public and common seal the effigies of St. Margaret standing in a triumphal manner, wounding the dragon with a cross, and trampling upon him with her feet. The motto circumscribed around the seal is,

Sub Margareta teritur Draco, stat Cruce læta.

From which the honorary coat of arms of this town is derived, being on a field azure, three dragons heads transfixed, with three crosses, croset fitchee, or.

Here is a theatre very convenient and neat, neither profusely ornamented, nor disgustingly plain; and

although not free from faults, yet has none but what resulted from the architect being confined to fill up the shell of an old building which was raised for another purpose.

The assembly-rooms are capacious, and handsomely fitted up: they consist of three on a line; the first an old town-hall, fifty-eight feet by twenty-seven, and of a well proportioned loftiness, would be a very good ball-room, had it a boarded floor, but at present forms a very noble anti-room. It opens into the ball-room, sixty feet by twenty-seven, and twenty-two feet high, which would have been a proper one, if the architect had given his music gallery a hitch backwards; for at present it is a mere shelf stuck in between the chimnies, an eye-sore to the room. If he did it through confinement for want of space, he should undoubtedly have formed his music-seats upon the plan of those at Almack's, at the end of the room; they might have waved in a scroll round the door of the card-room, mingled with branches of candles, which might easily have been rendered a great ornament.

The card-room is twenty-seven feet by twenty-seven, and twenty-two feet high.

As the three are upon a line, it would have given them an uncommon elegance, had the openings from one into another been in three arches in the centre supported by pillars, instead of the present glass doors, which are mean.

The eye would then have commanded at once a suite of one hundred and forty-five feet, which, with handsome lustres properly disposed, would have rendered these rooms inferior to few in England.

In

In the year 1683, sir John Turner, knight, three times mayor here, and for many years one of their representatives in parliament, erected, at his own expence, a handsome building of free-stone, with two orders of columns, intending it for an exchange for merchants.

Upon the second floor, in a nich in the front, is a statue of king Charles II. and within is the custom-house, fitted up with several commodious apartments for that purpose: on the platform above is raised an open turret, upon pillars of the Corinthian order, with an exchange bell therein, being finished with an obelisk and ball, whereon stands Fame, instead of a weather-cock, the whole being ninety feet high.

The situation of this town, near the fall of the Ouse into the sea, gives it an opportunity of extending its trade into eight different counties, so that it supplies many considerable cities and towns with its heavy goods, not only of our own produce, but imported from abroad.

It deals more largely in coals and wine than any other town in England, except London, Bristol, and Newcastle. In return for these articles of merchandise imported, it receives back for exportation all the corn produced in the several counties which it supplies; and of this one article, Lynn exports more than any one port in the kingdom, except Hull in Yorkshire.

Its foreign trade is very considerable, especially to Holland, Norway, the Baltic, Spain and Portugal.

MASSINGHAM,

MASSINGHAM MAGNA, or DERTFORD's. At the survey no distinction is made of the townships of Great and Little Massingham, so that it seems to be undivided at that time, and occurs under the name of Masincham and Marfincham, being seated on a wet or marshy meadow or common. The principal manor was then in king William the Conqueror.

This extensive parish, containing near four thousand acres of land, remained in the crown till king Henry I. granted it away.

Besides this lordship, the Conqueror had in the hundred of Docking, Southmere, Titchwell and Stanhoe;—in Weyland hundred, Saham, Griston, Caston and Breccles;—in Forehoe hundred, Hingham;—in Mitford hundred, Flockthorpe;—in Gallow hundred, Fakenham, Althorpe, Thorpland, Creak, Stibbard and Kettlestone;—in Brothercrofts hundred, Dunton and Norton;—in Holt hundred, Holt, Cley, Sniterley, Hempstead, Bathley, Burston, Hunworth, Stody, Bayfield, Glanford, Gunthorpe, Scarnton and Morston;—in North Greenhoe, Wighton, Houghton, Holkham, Quarles, Egmere, Wells, Warham, Stifkey, Hindringham, Walsingham and Dalling;—in Walsham hundred, Moulton and Bastwick;—in West Flegg hundred, Martham and Clippefby;—in Henstead hundred, Framlingham;—in Difs hundred, Watlingfet and Burston;—in Eynsford hundred, Foulsham, Whitwell and Brandiston;—in Taverham hundred, Taverham and Felthorpe;—in South Erpingham hundred, Caston, Oulton, Stratton, Colby and Wickmere;—in Tunstead hundred Felmingham;—in East Flegg hundred, Ormesby and Runham;—in Clavering hundred Rildincham: also possessions and lordships in Norwich, Yarmouth and Thetford; there were also many other lordships which

which Godric, his bailiff, took care of, and also William de Noiers for the Conqueror,

John lord Fitz John, in the 3d of Edward I, granted to Roger bishop of Norwich, and to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, the advowson of the church of St. Mary of Massingham, belonging to this lordship. On his death it came to his brother, Richard Fitz John, anno 4^o of Edw. I. a baron of the realm, who granted it by his deed, dated at London on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul, in the 6th of the said king, to sir Thomas de Weyland, the judge. Stowe calls him the king's chief justice: he was in the 17th of the said reign, found guilty of notorious bribery and corruption; his whole estate and his goods were confiscated, and he was banished the kingdom.

The aforesaid historian relates, “that being convicted, and fearing to yield himself to the king's mercy, he went to the Friars minors, at Badwell in Suffolk, took on him the habit of a Grey Friar, but being discovered by some of his servants, he was watched and guarded, and after two months siege, went out, forsaking his friar's cowl, and was taken and sent to the Tower.”

In the 8th of Edward III. sir John de Norwich was lord, and had a grant of a weekly market on Friday, and of a fair for three days yearly, on the vigil, day, and day after St. Simon and Jude, dated June 10, at Newcastle upon Tyne. Witnesses, William archbishop of York, Richard bishop of Durham, treasurer, John de Eltham, earl of Cornwall, the king's brother, John de Warren, earl of Surry, Henry de Percy, William de Montacute, Ralph de Nevill, steward of the household.

At

At the dissolution it was farmed by Henry Bedingfield, esq. and on January 21, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, granted with the advowson of the church, by the name of Massingham Magna, *alias* Dertford, *alias* Lady Manor, to Thomas Gresham, esq. afterwards a knight, and founder of the Royal Exchange in London, who died lord of it.

On the death of the lady Ann Gresham, his relict, at Osterley house in Middlesex, November 23, in the 39th of Elizabeth, she was found to die seised of it, held by the twentieth part of a fee; and sir William Reed was her son and heir, aged fifty. She was a daughter of William Fernley, gent. of West Creting in Suffolk, and had to her first husband William Reed, a merchant of London, of the family of the Reeds of Beccles in Suffolk, and was father of sir William, who kept a court here as lord July 21, in the 9th of James I,

After the Reeds it was in the family of the Barkhams, of Southacre and Westacre, who resided at High House, now the seat of Anthony Hammond, esq. by purchase from the late Edward Spelman, esq. who built the present house, and called it after the old name of the family seat, High House.

Sir Edward Barkham was lord mayor of London in 1621, and was created a baronet June 28, 1623: his only daughter and heiress, Helen, married Charles Yallop, esq. son and heir of sir Robert Yallop: the late Edward Spelman, esq. was son of this Charles Yallop and Helen daughter of sir Edward Barkham, and took the name of Spelman from Clement Spelman, esq. one of the barons of the Exchequer, whose daughter Dorothy married sir Robert Yallop. Hence it was that Charles Yallop, esq. father of
the

the late Edward Spelman, became lord of the manor and abbey estate, and patron of the church of Great Maffingham, and in the year 1698 presented the Rev. Benjamin Squire to the rectory, who dying in 1731, was succeeded by Dr. John Gardiner, on the presentation of sir Robert Walpole, who had purchased the advowson of the late Edward Spelman.

Sir Thomas Reed married the daughter of Thomas Cecil, earl of Salisbury, and his youngest son sold the Maffingham estate, and that of Westacre, to sir Edward Barkham, bart. and from him this lordship, as before observed, came to Charles Yallop, esq. (only son of sir Robert Yallop, knt. of Bowthorpe by Norwich, and Dorothy his wife, daughter of Clement Spelman, esq. of Gray's Inn, London, a baron of the Exchequer) on his marriage with Helen, only daughter and heir of sir Edward Barkham, bart. of Westacre; whose son and heir Edward Yallop, alias Spelman, esq. conveyed it to sir Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, and in that family it remains, George earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county, being the present lord.

MONKS, OF CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. This manor was called after the monks of the abbey of Maffingham, being subordinate, and a cell to that of the cluniac monks at Castleacre.

Great part of this manor, with many other lands and revenues, were at different times and in different reigns given by the several proprietors, as they succeeded, to the priory and monks of Castleacre; the times of such donations, as well as the names of the donors, are very uncertainly related by historians, though a chartulary of the priory of Castleacre is
said

said still to exist, and is to be found in the library of the late earl of Orford, probably now in the possession of the earl of Hardwicke, at Wimple near Cambridge, but it has no date.

On the dissolution of the priory of Castle-acre, this manor was granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk, to be held of the king *in capite*, December 22, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. From the duke of Norfolk it came to the Walpoles, and John Walpole, serjeant at law, was found to hold it, whose son and heir, William, had livery of it in the 8th of Elizabeth.

This manor is now in the present earl of Orford, the countess his lordship's mother holding it only in jointure, and being tenant for life.

MASSINGHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the town of Great Massingham was a cell, or small priory, belonging to Castleacre priory, dedicated to the Virgin and St. Nicholas, and often called in old writings the hospital of St. Mary; it was founded by Nicholas le Syre, of Massingham.

Many grants were made and donations given to this priory of Massingham, and many lands purchased by the prior and monks, so that the priory of the Virgin and St. Nicholas at Massingham became in process of time very considerable for its possessions, and notwithstanding Massingham abbey was a cell to Castleacre abbey, and the cluniac monks, it was nevertheless very powerful and rich in itself.

On its dissolution it was granted, January 21, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, with the manor and rectory of Langham, and advowson of the vicarage,

rage, the manor of Morston, and the advowson of the rectory, the manor of Walsingham, the manor of Combs, and advowson of the rectory, and the manor of Narford, to Thomas Gresham, esq.

On the death of sir Thomas Gresham, in 1579, it came to his lady Anne, and on her decease to her son sir William Reed, by her first husband, who held it with his lordship of Massingham Magna, or Dertford's; and so to sir Edward Barkham, the Yallops, the late Edward Spelman, esq. and is now in the possession of the present earl of Orford, 1778.

This priory has met with the same fate as the priory of Castleacre, to which it was subordinate, and is now converted to a farm-house, nothing remaining but old walls, that appear and mark it to be the ruins of a religious house.

This estate, with many others in this town, are the property of the earl of Orford, patron of the church.

FELTHAM'S MANOR. This manor, after being in possession of the Wodehouse family and many others, came in the reign of queen Elizabeth to the Walpole family, and William Walpole, esq. died seised of it.

Sir Edward Coke was possessed of it in the reign of king James I. and his descendants, the right hon. Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester, died lord of it in 1759, and it remains in that family at present.

To the poor of the parish of Great Massingham many charitable bequests have been made.

Dr.

Dr. Pierce, formerly master of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, left one pound ten shillings, to be paid yearly at Michaelmas by the master and fellows of that college.

Twenty marks, or 14l. was given by a Mr. Wright, formerly an inhabitant of this parish, which is put into the hands of one of the principal parishioners, and the interest paid annually at Christmas and distributed to the poor.

A house and small piece of land given by Dr. Beridge, and lett at 2l. 10s. a year, the rent to be distributed every Christmas.

Seven acres and one rood of land given to the town, for repairing the church clock, and for ringing a bell at four o'clock in the morning and at eight in the evening, from All Saints Day to St. Matthias. This has been neglected many years.

Six white penny loaves are given to the poor every Sunday, according to the will of Charles Calthorpe, esq. payable out of his estate in this town purchased by the late earl of Leicester; also out of the same estate three shillings and four-pence yearly, for the repair of the town well.

The plate in the church is,

One large silver flaggon, weighing fifty-six ounces and a half.

One silver cup with a cover, weighing sixteen ounces.

One silver plate, weighing twelve ounces.

In this town is a free school, endowed with 20l. per ann. for a master, to be chosen by the rectors of Massingham Magna and Parva, and of Harpley, who is to have no preferment in the church.

This free school was founded by Charles Calthorpe, esq. who tied an estate in this parish for the annual payment of 20l. for ever, which estate was purchased by lord Leicester, and is now in the Holkham family. Mr. Calthorpe in his will mentions, that he left this 20l. as a beginning only, and to encourage others to encrease and enlarge the foundation, of which he expressed his hopes; but his hopes and wishes have been vain, and he stands the first and only benefactor to the school. The master is bound to teach twenty-five boys, if there are so many, of the parishes of Great and Little Massingham, and Harpley; and in case they cannot supply the number, then the parish of Rougham is entitled to send children.

There are above one thousand acres of common in this parish, and formerly the poor kept a herd of sixty or seventy cows upon it, and paid a herdsman for attending them; but this valuable custom has been long laid aside, and the commons made no other use of by the poor but to cut firing, and to turn a horse upon occasionally; and the commons are become sheep-walks, and feed the numerous flocks of the capital farmers.

The church is a regular pile, consisting of a nave, a north and south isle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the west end is a four-square tower.

On a grave-stone with a brass plate in the chancel,
—Per varios casus, hic jacet (et inturbatum jaceat) cor-
 pus

pus Johs. Beregij D. D. qui fuit filius Johs. Beregij S. T. D. hujus ecclesiæ rector, obt. 9 die mensis Novemb. Ao. Dni. 1690.—Sacrificium Deo; with these arms, argent, a saltire ingrailed between four escallops, sable.

- The church of Massingham All Saints was standing in 1392.

Sir Robert Sygon, of Lynn Bishop, priest, by his will in 1505, "bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of St. Mary of Massingham; gives a legacy to St. John Baptist's guild there, 7 acres of land to the common profits of the said town, to pay and discharge the leyte money of 3s. by yere, and to pay the holy brede loose, and the money longyng ev'ry Sunday for ever; a close called Ryfing-Yard, with half an acre of land, and 23 acres of land in the fields of Massingham, in divers pieces.

"*Item, to the commonalty of Massingham, with the Croft, an acre of land and an half, lying in Len Way, with all the appertenances, and implements thereto belonging, to make their common drinkyngs of the plow day, and odyr times at their pleasure, so that they every yere kepe myne obit, ringing a peale for my soule, and sing a mass for ever, and do odyr good deeds.*"

John Berridge, D. D. died rector of this parish in 1698, to whom Benjamin Squire (father of the late Charles Squire, rector of Congham and Little Massingham; and of the late John Squire, rector of Lavenham in Suffolk, both eminent for their learning) succeeded on the presentation of the Yallop family, of High House, Westacre.

In 1731, John Gardiner, L. L. D. rector of Brunststead, and minister of St. Giles's and St. Gregory's in the city of Norwich, was presented by sir Robert Walpole, knight of the garter, first lord commissioner of the treasury, and prime minister to king George I. and II. universally acknowledged the greatest statesman of the age he lived in. Dr. Gardiner lived the much respected rector of this church near forty years, until the 15th. of November 1770, when to the unspeakable grief of his family and friends, he departed this life, *etat.* 68. He was son of John Gardiner, esq. of Aldburgh in the county of Suffolk, who was captain in lord Cutt's regiment of foot, and died at Minorca in the reign of queen Anne. His remains were interred in the chancel of Great Massingham, by the altar, next to the grave of his late affectionate wife, and tender parent to her children, who died October 10, 1759. A grave-stone is over both, and a hatchment over the grave-stone, with the arms of Gardiner and Turner: she was the daughter of John Turner, esq. of Saffron Waldon in Essex, and was married to the late Dr. Gardiner October 6, 1722. They had many children, of whom only four lived to the age of twenty-one years, and of which two only survived their much lamented parents.

1. Richard, born at Saffron Walden in Essex, October 4, 1723, who served as captain of marines, on board the Rippon man of war of sixty guns, at the siege of Guadalupe, one of the French Caribbean islands, in the year 1759. He married Ann, the only daughter of Benjamin Bromhead, of Thurleby, near Lincoln.

2. John, who died at sea in the command of the Bedford man of war of seventy guns, and was buried off the Rock of Lisbon, February 8, 1747.

3. William, who served with his eldest brother at the siege of Guadalupe, in the West Indies, and was lieutenant in the 4th regiment of foot: he died at sea, on his passage home from the English garrison in the citadel of Basse Terre, Guadalupe, and buried off the island of St. Kitt's, in July 1761.

4. Margaret, married to the Rev. Thomas Moneyn, rector of Braken-Ash near Norwich.

The late Dr. Gardiner was a man universally respected throughout life; a man of learning, and a gentleman: his excellent discourses in the pulpit proclaimed him to be the first, his address and affability out of it to be the last. He was a most tender parent to his children, an affectionate husband, a humane good man to all! The tears of his parishioners at his funeral, bore an honorable testimony to his virtues. His pall was supported by six of the neighbouring clergy, whose concern in that last melancholy office, was alone exceeded by the poignant feelings of those more nearly allied.

In 1771, James Trivett was presented to this rectory by the earl of Orford. In 1772, Cock Langford, presented by the earl of Orford.

Over the grave-stone, near the altar, is the following inscription:

H. S. E.
JOHANNES GARDINER,
L. L. D.

*Per triginta annos
et Amplius*

Hujus Ecclesiae
RECTOR.
The

The foregoing was found after Dr. Gardiner's decease, in his own hand writing, and was therefore put upon the stone in preference to any other inscription.

Ob. Novem. 15 Die 1770, ætat. 63.

Lapidam

Carissimo Patri

Ricardus Filius Superstes

Merens Posuit.

MDCCLXXI.

MASSINGHAM PARVA. Great Massingham and Little Massingham, as before observed, were undivided before, and at the grand survey making one township, the greatest part of which was in the Conqueror's hands, being the possessions of Harold, the late king, who was killed at the battle of Hastings. Another part of Massingham was the lordship of Euflace, earl of Bologne: this was what is now called Massingham Parva.

This manor came to sir Robert de Thorpe, and continued in the family of the Thorpes for many generations; thence to the family of the Tilneys at Boston.

Frederick Tilney, of Boston, was lord of this manor in 1454, six years before the death of Hen. VI. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Laurence Cheyney, esq. of Ditton in Cambridgeshire. By her he had one only daughter, Elizabeth, who married sir Humphrey Bourchier, knight, (eldest son of John lord Berners) who was slain at Barnet field, on the part of king Edward IV. on Easter-day, 1471, and was lord of this manor in right of his wife: she afterwards married Thomas Howard, son and heir of

John lord Howard, (who was created earl of Surry, and after was duke of Norfolk) and dying in 1507, was buried in the nuns choir of the Minories, without Aldgate, London; but this manor was held for life, by the courtesy of England, by her husband.

Sir John Bouchier, son and heir of sir Humphry, was summoned to parliament as lord Berners, in the 11th and 12th of Henry VII: &c. and died deputy general of the town and marches of Calais, March 19, 1532.

He married Catherine, daughter of John Howard duke of Norfolk, who survived him, and died March 12, 1535.

In the 7th year of king Henry VIII. the jury find, on the death of sir William Capel, knight, that long before his death, sir John Bouchier, lord Berners, had sold his reversion of this manor and advowson to sir William Capel, who gave it to his grandson Edward, second son of sir Giles Capel, son and heir to sir William, being then held, as it is said, of the prior of Castleacre. This Edward, (afterwards a knight) sold it in the 26th of Henry VIII. by fine, with Ann his wife, to John Jenour and Anthony Brown: soon after this it came to the Mordaunts family, who before this had an interest in the said town.

Henry L'Estrange, of Hunstanton, esq. by his will, dated November 13, 1483, appears to be lord of it; and his third son, John L'Estrange, esq. who married Margaret, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas L'Estrange, of Walton Deville in Warwickshire, esq. died seised of this lordship.

By his will, dated December 16, 1516, he bequeaths his body to be buried (if he died within five miles of Massingham) before our Blessed Lady, in the chapel on the south side of the chancel of this church, and that a tomb be made for him, and set up there in the said chapel, after the manner of sir Henry Heydon's tomb in Norwich, with the arms of him, his wife, and his ancestors, and a sculpture of him and his wife, with an *orate*, &c. and if his corps lies in any other place, he wills that a plain stone, with his arms and his wife's, be laid over him, but that a tomb be nevertheless erected here.

To the church of Massingham Parva he gives a vestment and tunicle, after the rate of sir Robert Ratclyff's cope, with *orate*, &c. of white damask, price eight marks, to be made after the rate of the green vestment at Hunstanton, with the Stranges arms, but that his three escutcheons have his father's arms on the one side, his father-in-law's on the other, and his and his wife's at the tail. To Barbara his daughter, all his books of law, except the boarded books, to be given to her son, if she have the fortune to have one: his boarded books to the library of Lincoln's-Inn, every one of them to have a scripture of his gift, being a fellow, twice reader, and twice treasurer of that society; and to the chapter of that house, a vestment and an altar cloth, price ten marks: to his wife the manors of Massingham and Congham, and after her decease to her daughter Barbara; and in default to Richard Le Strange, the son of Thomas Le Strange; Master William Mordaunt and Barbara his daughter, &c. executors. Proved October 23, 1517.

This John is said to have been one of the king's judges,

Barbara, his daughter and heir, married Robert Mordaunt, esq. lord of this manor and Congham in her right, which Robert was eldest son of William Mordaunt, prothonotary of the common pleas, by Jane his wife, daughter and coheir of Thomas Huntington, esq. of Hempstead in Essex. It appears that in the 21st of Henry VIII. he and his wife held this manor, and lands called Elingham's, Walcote's, Rusteyn's, Geffrey's, Pettygard's, and Alexander's, with thirty messuages here and in Congham St. Ann's, St. Andrew's, and All Saints, &c. and in this family it still remains, sir Charles Mordaunt, bart. of Walton Deville in Warwickshire, being the present lord, descended from sir Osbert de Mordaunt, a Norman knight, lord of Radwill in Bedfordshire, by the gift of his brother Eustachius de Sancto Ægidio, which he had by the gift of the Conqueror, for his and his father's services at the conquest.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

On a marble grave-stone—*Orate p. a'v'a. D'ni. Jacobi Bastard, quondam rectoris istius eccl'ie, qui totaliter teclum hujus cancelli fieri fecit, et obt. Ao. D'ni. 1530, cuj. &c.*

Between the arch at the upper end of the nave and the south isle, is an altar monument of grey marble, raised above a yard from the ground, on which have been the portraitures of a man and woman, and that of our Saviour on the cross, with the shields of arms, and a rim of brass running round it, now all reaved and stolen; probably in memory of John L'Estrange, esq. and Margaret his wife, before mentioned; and in a window near to it were the arms of the said John, gules, two lions passant

passant guardant, argent, quartering his wife's, which were the same, with a bendlet over all, or.

Against a pillar, a compartment of marble with the arms of Mordaunt, impaling Talmarsh; argent, a fret, sable.—*Sir Charles Mordaunt, knight and baronet, dyed at London, July 10, 1648, aged 33, he was married to Catherine, daughter of Sir Lionel Talle-mache, of Helmingham in Suffolk, knight a baronet, by whom he had Sir Charles, his eldest son, Kath. Talle-mache, (dying before her father) John, Henry, (departed also) Elizabeth and Amy.*

*Here remains in civill trust
His beloved bewayled dust,
Whose goodness is secure from fear
Of finding any sepulchrer.*

On a marble grave-stone at the east end of the nave—*Hic sublocantur reliquiae Dni. Caroli Mordant de Massingham, militis et baronnetti, filij et hæredis Robti Mordant militis, de quo Dno Carolo plura ad murum orientalem legantur, 1648.*

On another, with the arms of Mordaunt,—*Carolus Mordant baronettus, Caroli Mordant, baronetti, et Katharinæ Talamach filius, humanitatis et virtutis exemplar, obt. Ao. Dni. 1664, die 24 Apr.*

Anno ætat. 25, in æternum doloris et amoris monu-mentum Elizabetha Thori. consors integerrima marmor hoc posuit.

On another—*M.S.—D'na Anna W. Risley de Bedford gen. filia et hæres D'ni. Johs. Mordaunt de Walton in com. Warw. bar. uxor amans et amata, casta, pia, fidelis, affabilitate, pudicitia, et morum suavitate, peramabilis;*

nabilis; variolis malignis occidens, mortis exuvias (certa spe renascenti ad gloriam) hoc subter marmor deposuit,

Obijt prid. non Junij anno salutis nostræ 1692, ætatis suæ — — — bis gravida et semel puerpera, hæc nullam reliquit sobolem, quippe alteram in incunabilis, alteram in utero cum matre ademptum lugemus, Penelope quam solam peperit, matrem præcedens, eodem quiescit sepulchro. Et sic inmaternis amplexibus dormire videatur. Vita vix inchoata recessit, prid. non. Janur. Ao. Christi incarnati 1690.

In 1760, on the resignation of the Rev. Armine Styleman, rector of Ringstead, and brother of Nicolas Styleman, esq. of Snettisham, the Rev. Charles Mordaunt, second son of sir Charles Mordaunt, was presented to this rectory by his father.

MIDDLETON, lies about three miles east of Lynn, in the road to Swaffham, on a turnpike road.

SCALES HALL. This lordship was under many sovereign princes of this kingdom, in the noble family of lord Scales, one of the most powerful barons not only in Norfolk but in all England.

1. In the reign of Henry II. Roger de Scales was lord of this manor.

2. In Richard I. Robert de Scales his son.

3. In Henry III. Roger de Scales his son.

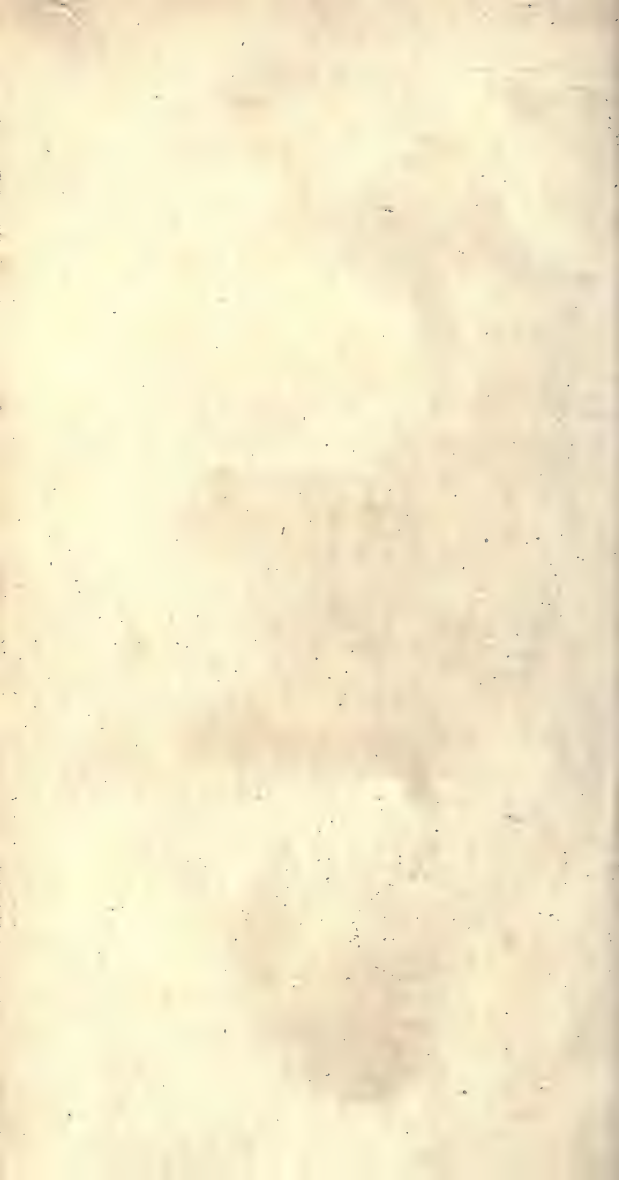
4. The same reign, Robert his son.

5. In Edward I. Robert his son.

6. In Edward II. Robert his son.

7. In





7. { In Edward III. and } Robert his son.
Richard II.
8. In Henry IV. Robert his son.
9. In Henry V. Robert his son—died unmarried.
In the same, Thomas his younger brother.

8. In Henry IV. Robert his son.

9. In Henry V. Robert his son—died unmarried,
In the same, Thomas his younger brother.

10. In Henry VI. the said Thomas was lord.—He was killed the latter end of the reign of Henry VI. His son Thomas died before him, and his daughter married the son and heir of earl Rivers, in the reign of Edward IV. who was summoned to parliament by the title of lord Scales.

11. In Edward IV. Anthony lord Scales, in whom the title of Scales was extinguished. He was beheaded at Pomfret by order of Richard duke of Gloucester, on the death of Edward IV. to whose queen he was brother.

The title of Scales, and great possessions, thus continued in a lineal descent, almost from father to son, from the reign of Henry II. to the death of Edward IV. a space of three hundred years and upwards.

In the 33d of Edward I. it appears by the escheat rolls that he died seized of this lordship.

Robert lord Scales, son of Robert and Isabel his wife, was in the 34th of Edward I. created knight of the Bath with prince Edward, and in the 1st of Edward II. summoned to attend his coronation, to be solemnized after the feast of St. Valentine, by writ dated at Dover, Jan. 8. The lady Isabel his mother, in the 9th of that king, settled on her son Robert

bert, and Egelina his wife, on their marriage, the manors of Scales-Howe and Islington: she was daughter of sir Hugh Courtney, and sister of Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonshire. This lord Robert died in the 18th of Edward II. leaving a son, Robert.

In the year 1333, in the 7th of Edward III. he had livery of his lands, and in that king's 16th year, the king's writ to provide ten men at arms and ten archers, to be sent into Brittany for the honour of his king and country; and if he would go himself with them; the king would be mightily pleased: and in the 31st of the said king, he was summoned to come immediately at the siege of Calais, not staying for the embarkation of his horses, with all the power he could raise, the king fearing that the French king would come with all his power to raise the siege.

In the 30th of that reign he had letters of protection, being to accompany the prince of Wales into Gascoigne. In the 43d of Edward III. he died, leaving Roger his son and heir, aged 22; who in the 4th of Richard II. was seized by the Norfolk rebels; and in his 8th year was summoned, June 13, to meet the king at Newcastle upon Tyne, with his whole service of horse and arms, as by allegiance bound, to attend him into Scotland; and in the ensuing year was with John duke of Lancaster, in the Spanish expedition, and stiled himself lord of Newcells.

This Robert lord Scales died in the 10th of Richard II. leaving a son, Robert, of fourteen years of age. His son, Robert lord Scales, was one of the lords in parliament who, in the 1st year of Hen. IV. voted for the safe custody of the late Richard II. He died in the 2d year of Henry IV. leaving Robert his son, six year of age.

This Robert died unmarried, in the 7th of Henry V. some say was killed on the king's march from Caen in Normandy toward Roan.

Thomas lord Scales was aged 21, on the death of his brother Robert; and on the 1st of May, in the 9th of Henry V. was retained by indenture to serve that king in the wars of France, and to be at Dover on the 23d of that month, with twenty men at arms, sixty archers on horseback, to be paid a quarter's wages down, and after from month to month, in English gold, or money current in France, by the treasurer of war there; to have all prisoners, except kings, princes, kings sons, and especially Charles, called Dauphin of Vienne, and other great captains of royal blood, and chieftains and lieutenants under him, the said Charles; and except all those who had a hand in the murder of the duke of Burgoyne.

In these wars he behaved gallantly, and was seneschall of Normandy, as appears from his seal in the 20th of Henry VI. with six escallops; his crest a plume of ostrich's feathers, issuing out of a ducal coronet, circumscribed,—*S. Thomæ Dnj. Scaldis et de Neucellis senescalli Normanie*; without any supporters.

In the 3d of Henry VI. being then in France with the duke of Bedford, the regent, he was elected knight of the garter, at St. George's feast at Windsor. About four years after, he was taken prisoner in France and redeemed.

This lord was in high favour with king Henry VI. and his queen. On the arrival of the earls of March, Warwick and Salisbury, from Calais, and
their

their entry into London on July 2, in the 38th of the said king, he took possession of, and secured the Tower of London, with other lords, for the king; but after the battle of Northampton, on the 9th of that month, wherein the king was taken, many in the Tower surrendering themselves, this lord endeavouring to make his escape, entered a wherry or boat, late in the evening, with three others, and rowing towards Westminster to take sanctuary, was descried by a woman, and the wherry men falling upon him, killed him and cast him on land, (as Stowe says) beside St. Mary Overy's.

Hall relates, that on king Henry's entering into London after the aforefaid battle, with the earl of March, &c. on July 16, the Tower of London was delivered to the said earl by composition, but the lord Scales suspecting the sequel of the delivery, entered a wherry, privily intending to have fled to the queen, but was espied by divers watermen belonging to the earl of Warwick, who waited for his forth coming on the Thames, and he was suddenly taken, and shortly slain with many darts and daggers, and his body left all bloody and naked at the gate of the Clynke, which after was buried in the church adjoining, that is, in St. Mary Overy's, in Surry. He is said to have had a son, Thomas, who died before him; so that he left a daughter and sole heir, Elizabeth, then married, as is said, to sir Henry Bouchier, knight, second son of Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, aged 24.

On the 27th of May, in the 2d of king Edward IV. we find the said Elizabeth to be the wife of Anthony Woodville, son and heir of Richard Woodville, earl Rivers, lord treasurer to that king, and father of Elizabeth his queen; and in February following

lowing was summoned to parliament by the title of lord Scales.

Sir Anthony Woodville had no children by the lady Elizabeth, so that the lineal descent of the family of lord Scales ended in her.

Sir Anthony, whose titles were earl of Rivers, lord of Scales and Newcells, upon the death of Edward IV. was seized and arrested by the duke of Gloucester, at Northampton, about the end of the said month, coming to London with the young king, Edward V. of whom he had the governance, and forthwith committed to the castle of Sheriff-Hutton in Yorkshire, where he made his last will, on June 23 following, the day before the cruel murder of the young king and his brother in the Tower of London; as Dugdale relates, which was to this purpose, as follows:

“ I, Anthony Woodville, in the castle of Sheriff-Hutton, bequeath all my lands that were my father's to my brother sir Edward Woodville, and his heirs male; my heart to be buried (if I die south of Trent) before our Lady of Pewe, beside St. Stephen's college at Westminster, also the lands that were my first wife's, the lady Scales, and Thomas lord Scales's her brother, to my brother sir Edward, and his heirs male; but he to whom it should come, before he took possession thereof, to deduct five hundred marks to be employed for the souls of the said lady and her brother, and the souls of all the Scales's blood, &c. and to find a priest for one year to pray for them, his own soul, and all Christian souls, at our Lady of Pewe; and another priest to sing at the chapel of the Rodes in Greenwich, for his own soul, and all Christian souls.”

Soon after the date of this will, he was carried to Pontefract castle in Yorkshire, and was there brought on a scaffold by sir Richard Ratcliff, one of the duke of Gloucester's chief confidents, and not suffered to speak any thing in vindication of himself, sir Richard telling the people he was a traitor.

We find this sir Edward his brother, in his last will, dated February 20, 1490, and proved March 23 in the said year, to stile himself earl Rivers, and gives his body to be buried in the abbey of St. James at Northampton.

Hall says he was beheaded at Pontefract, with the lord Richard Gray, (the queen's son by her first husband) sir Thomas Vaughan and sir Richard Haute, the same day the lord Hastings was beheaded in the Tower, and their bodies were buried naked in the monastery there.

Dugdale says, that in the 2d of Richard III. John duke of Norfolk had a grant of this lordship, and soon after, on the death of Richard, was forfeited: this grant was dated February 1, anno 2d of Richard III.

On the accession of king Henry VII. Elizabeth, daughter and heir of sir John Howard, wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, was found one of the heirs of Elizabeth, late lady Scales, abovementioned, as great grand-daughter of Margaret Scales, daughter of Robert, lord Scales, wife of sir Robert Howard, and sister of Roger lord Scales. The other heir was sir William Tyndal, knighted on the creation of Arthur, prince of Wales, descended from Elizabeth Scales, sister of the aforesaid Margaret, which Elizabeth, married sir Roger Felbrigg, and had sir Simon Felbrigg,

Felbrigg, whose daughter and heir, Alana, married sir William Tyndal, grandfather to sir William above-mentioned.

On a division of the Scales's estate, this township was assigned to the family of the earls of Oxford; and John de Vere, earl of Oxford, son of the above-mentioned Elizabeth, was lord of this manor, and dying without issue, it descended to his nephew, John de Vere, earl of Oxford, son of his brother sir George de Vere; and on the death of the said John, his estate was divided amongst his three sisters and coheirs.

Dorothy, who married John Nevill, lord Latimer, and Elizabeth, who married sir Anthony Wingfield, of Letheringham in Suffolk, knight of the garter, vice-chamberlain, &c. to king Henry VIII. had each a moiety of this lordship.

John lord Latimer, son of John lord Latimer, by Dorothy, had livery of his part or moiety in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, who dying in 1577, his estate was divided amongst his four daughters and coheirs; and his right in this town came to sir Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter, by the marriage of Dorothy, one of the said four daughters and coheirs, who purchased also the Wingfield part or moiety, and sold the whole to sir Thomas Holland, by a licence for so doing, (it being held *in capite*) on January 1, 19th James I.

In 1635, sir John Heveningham is said to be lord.

In 1649, sir William Paston, bart. was lord.

Richard Berney, esq. died lord in 1699, and this manor was ordered by a decree in chancery to be
T
fold

fold (1709) to pay his debts, being mortgaged by him to Mrs. Martell.

Isaac Leheup, esq. was lord, and on his death it came to his two daughters and coheirs.

Mary, one of them, married sir Edward Williams, bart. of Wales; the other, Elizabeth, to ——— Lloyd, esq. of Epping in Essex.

Sir Edward was lord of this manor in her right, and sold it to vice-admiral Savage Mostyn, who dying in 1757, left it to sir Roger Mostyn, bart. his nephew, who sold it to a tenant of the late lord Leicester's.

Edward Everard, esq. alderman of the corporation of Lynn, has a pleasant house and gardens in this village, with a mount which looks over the town, and channel of the harbour.

There were three other manors in this town, which were probably all united in the family of the lord Scales.

BURY ABBEY MANOR,

CASTLE-HALL MANOR, and

TYRRINGTON-HALL MANOR.

In this town the lords Scales had their seat, part of which is still remaining, the gate-house or tower.

The church of Middleton is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a regular pile, consisting of a nave, a north and south isle, with a chancel, the nave and north and south isles are covered with lead, and the
chancel

chancel with reed, and has a square tower with one bell.

In the windows of the north isle these arms are on painted glass,—gules, six escallops; argent, lord Scales.

A grave-stone, *In memory of James Everard, A. M. vicar of this parish, who died May 29, 1722, aged 50.*

On the dissolution of Blackburgh priory in this town, the appropriated rectory came to the crown, with the patronage of the vicarage, and were granted, in the 9th of James I. to Francis Morris and Francis Phelps, and in the December following conveyed by them to sir Henry Spelman.

The present vicar, the Rev. John Dowling, was presented in 1758, by Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Lecheup, esq. widow of — Lloyd, esq.

BLACKBURGH PRIORY. This priory was endowed with considerable revenues by the lord Scales and other families: there is nothing now remaining of it, except a part turned into a dove-house.

MINTLING. This lordship is adjoining to Gaywood, is called in Doomſday-book Meltinga, and was then the lordship of William de Beaufoe, bishop of Thetford, which he held in his own right.

This bishop, on his death, gave this and many other lordships to his church, and it continued in the fee of Norwich till granted, with Gaywood, by king Henry VIII. to the duke of Norfolk, and so came (as is there observed) to the Thurlbys, and was sold by Francis Thurlby, esq. to sir Cyril Wyche.

Some conceive that it takes its name from a mint that the bishops of Norwich had here for coining of money, a privilege which many great fees, both in England and beyond sea, were endowed with; but this is a mistake, it being so called long before the see at Elmham, Thetford, or Norwich, had any right or interest in it; *Mel* is to be met with in many towns, as Melford, Melburn, Melton, &c. from *Mel*, a river, and *Ing*, a meadow; we find also a priory at Mintling in Lincolnshire.

Bishop Beaufoe had a grant from the Conqueror of this town, Sedgeford in Smithdon hundred—Eccles in Shropham hundred—Langham in Holt hundred—Gunton and Shipdam in North Erpingham hundred—Walsbam in Walsbam hundred—Blofield and Plumstead in Blofield hundred—Hemefby in West Flegg hundred—Rockland in Henstead hundred—Mendham in Earsham hundred—North Langley in Loddon hundred—Helmingham and Thurning in Eynsford hundred—Taverham and Attleburgh in Taverham hundred—Blickling, Barningham, East Beckham, Masbam and Stratton in South Erpingham hundred—Horley in Happing hundred—Scratby, Ormesby and Thrigby, in East Flegg hundred—Stratton in Depwade hundred—Raveningham in Clavering hundred—Cressingham Magna in South Greenhoe hundred—Hunstanton in Smithdon hundred—Stanford in Grimshoe hundred—Gateley in Launditch hundred—Colkirk in Brothercrofts hundred—Saxlingham in Gallow hundred—Snetterley, Barningham and Melton, in Holt hundred—Hindringham and Thorpe in North Greenhoe hundred—Houghton, Barningham and Beckham, in North Erpingham hundred—Hemlington in Walsbam hundred—Plumstead in Burlingham, Freethorpe and Litcham, Bradiston, Catton and Bucham, Brundall
and

and Witton in Blofield hundred—Winterton, Somerton, Ashby Martham, Rollesby, Burgh, Bastwick, Hadescoe, Billockby and Clippeby in West Flegg hundred—South Burlingham and Tivetshall in Henstead hundred, and the lands of St. Michael in Norwich, and Taverham in Taverham hundred.

All these lordships were granted to him, to be held by him in fee, in his own right.

GAYTON-WELL-HALL. Near to Gayton (and now included in Gayton town) when the book of Doom-day was made, was a town called Welle, from its watery scite,

Of this town or lordship, Stigand (who held it as a lay fee) was deprived by the Conqueror, who gave it to William de Eschoies, or Scohies, who possessed it but a short time, and gave it to the abbey of St. Stephen's at Caen in Normandy.

King Richard II. in his 5th year, granted this priory and manor to sir John Devereux and Mary his wife, and Joan their daughter, for their lives; and on the 25th of June, in the 3d of Henry V. John Wodehouse, esq. (the renowned warrior) had a grant of it by the name of the priory, or house of Wells, with the manor of Wells, to be held by the service of a rose, to be paid on Midsummer-day. In 1421 he obtained licence to appropriate the rectory which belonged to the priory, and was now vested in him, to the chauntry priest of the Holy Trinity, and the five wounds of Christ, in the lower chapel of the charnel house at Norwich, near to the cathedral church, wherein he was afterwards buried, which priest was to officiate there for his soul. The manor was at this time valued at 23l. 10s. 2d. per ann.

Roger West, esq. presented to the vicarage in 1694, as lord of Well-Hall, and in 1699: after this ——— Sharrock, esq. was lord, and by his last will gave the patronage of the vicarage of Gayton to the see of Norwich; the bishop of Norwich presented in 1707 and 1740.

Robert Sharrock, esq. of Gately in the hundred of Launditch is the present proprietor and lord of the manor.

NEWTON WEST. (Wrote Nivetuna in the grand survey, that is, a Tuna, or Town, nigh to a water, or river, as this is, and not as some may conceive from its new scite, or erection.) It was a beruite to the manor of Snettisham, and held by the archbishop Stigand, in the Confessor's time, in his own right, who being in arms against the Conqueror, he seized on it, and gave it to Odo bishop of Baieux in France, his brother in law, lord at the survey.

There are two manors in this town, which adjoins to Sandringham, and is about seven miles from Lynn.

BUCKENHAM MANOR, and
BEAUFOE'S, or RIVET'S MANOR,

In 1297, the 25th of Edward I. Hugh de Buckenham kept his court here, and gave name to the manor of Buckenham.

Both these manors, after many descents, came to the Hostes, and by marriage of a daughter to the late Henry Cornish Henley, esq. whose only son is a minor, 1778.

The

The church of Newton is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and is a rectory. The Rev. James Sharp is the present rector, and was presented by the late king in 1732.

PENTNEY, MANOR and PRIORY. The priory founded in this town was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Mary Magdalen, and had considerable endowments.

Sir John de Thorpe gave, in the 16th of Edward II. a lordship in Gayton Thorpe; with a messuage, one hundred acres of land, four of pasture there, and in Walton, Wykes and Bekefwell, and the advowson of a moiety of the church of Gayton Thorpe, with twenty-eight acres of land in Tilney; and before this, in the 11th of the said king, the prior had licence to purchase a messuage, twenty-two acres of land, two roods of pasture, and seven shillings rent of Amicia, wife of John Butterwick, in Fincham and Stradset; and in the 43d of Edward III. had a patent for the manor of Belhouse, in North Tuddenham.

In the 44th of Edward III. the prior had a grant of free warren in this manor, West Bilney and Thorpe; and in the 12th of Richard II. the men of Pentney were allowed to be toll free, it being esteemed antient demeans,

This house had also a manor in Ketteringham, with the rectory appropriated, and the patronage of the vicarage, to which Richard de la Rokele added land; and Alice de Kingham, who in 1249, gave twenty-eight acres of land, eight of wood, and five shillings rent per ann.

Shottisham All Saints, and St. Botolph's rectories were appropriated, and they presented to the vicarages of those churches. Shottisham St. Mary's church was also appropriated, to which they presented a vicar, and was granted by William de Roos, with a carucate of land, in 1311, who married Maud de Vaux. The churches of Pentney, Thurston, West Bilney, Shernbourne, and Reepham, alias Whitwell, appropriated also; and the presentation of the vicar of Shernbourne, Whitwell and Thurston, in Norfolk, was in this priory, with the patronage of St. Mary's church of Warham.

About the time of the suppression, here was a prior with thirteen canons.

King Henry VIII. on the 11th of March, in his 30th year, granted to Thomas Mildmay, esq. auditor of the Exchequer, the site of this dissolved priory, with a water-mill, the manor of Pentney, called Ashwood, a foldcourse for two hundred sheep, and all the messuages, lands, &c. belonging to the said priory in this town; and king Edward VI. in his 4th year, February 26, granted him the impropriated rectory. Sir Thomas Mildmay, his son, conveyed all the aforesaid premises to Francis Windham, esq. a judge of the King's Bench; and on April 1, in the 20th of James I. sir Henry Windham had licence to sell it to sir Edward Bullock, knt. of Falkbourn-hall in Essex, from whom it was conveyed to sir Thomas Richardson, knt. lord chief justice of the King's Bench, who died seised of it October 24, 1631; and sir Thomas, his son, inherited it.

The family of Violet in Norfolk, had after this an interest herein.

Charles

Charles Nowys, esq. of Wood Ditton in Cambridgeshire, was lord about 1710.

This manor is now in the heirs of the late ——— Lloyd, esq. of Epping in Essex.

Robert Jodde was prior in 1526. He was the last prior, and with Richard Lynne, and twelve other canons, subscribed to the king's supremacy September 9, 1534, and surrendered this priory to the king. and had pensions for life.

The scite of this priory is about a mile westward of the church; the gate-house, which is a curious building of free-stone, is still standing, and covered with lead: a print of it was published a few years since by Mr. Millicent.

The church of Pentney was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and appropriated to the priory.

ROYDON, or REYDON, or RYDON, was in king Edwards time a beruite, or berwick, appertaining or belonging to the great or capital lordship of Snettisham.

It takes its name from Rye, or Rei, (river) of which see in Ryfing; and Don, or Dun, a hill.

In the reign of Edward III. this town was in the Wodehouse family.

Sir Richard de Wodehouse, son of sir William, lived in the reign of Edward III. and was lord of Roydon, and by virtue of this lordship, &c. held of the castle of Rysing, was obliged to repair and maintain a tower of that castle called Wodehouse's tower,

tower, and paid a sum of money yearly for the castle guard, and as we presume lived here.

John Wodehouse, esq. of the body to king Henry V. famous for his gallant behaviour at the battle of Agincourt, had his residence here, and was constable of the castle of Rising.

It appears from a manuscript of William de Worcester, alias Botoner, who lived in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. that he was in the retinue and family of sir John Fastolfe, knight of the garter, (his herald, and one of his executors) that this John Wodehouse built here a large and most royal and beautiful manor-house, called the Rey, on the river hereby, which cost him above two thousand marks sterling, with stately offices, &c. about a mile from Rising, in which he died 1430; and that this noble edifice was entirely destroyed, and pulled down to the ground, by the advice and assistance of Thomas lord Scales, about September 21, 1454, by the consent of the heir of the founder, and his particular friend: the reason assigned is, that Thomas Daniel, esq. of Lancashire, late sheriff of Norfolk, by the assistance and power of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, on account of his marrying a kinswoman of the said duke, pretending a right and title to the said lordship, falsely asserting that Wodehouse, the heir to his father, the founder, had given it to him. On this pretence he several times entered the same by force, and a great army of the duke. And this the lord Scales did out of a good intention, though much to the loss and damage of Wodehouse's heir.

Upon this we presume the said Thomas Daniel became lord, and was also constable of Rising castle,

de, &c. but on the accession of Edward IV. the said Thomas is said to have been attainted, and it was then most likely granted to Anthony Woodville, who was created lord Scales, having married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas lord Scales abovementioned: on the death of this lady, in the 13th of Edward IV. it was found that she held this manor of Roydon; and Anthony lord Scales, &c. in her right presented to this rectory in 1473 and 1479.

On the death of Anthony lord Scales and earl Rivers, it probably came again into the Wodehouse family: in 1552 and 1561, Margaret, widow of Thomas Wodehouse, esq. eldest son of sir Roger Wodehouse, (who died in 1547, before his father) being jointured herein, presented to the church; and Roger Wodehouse, esq. was lord in the 36th of Henry VIII.

Soon after this it was possessed by Ralph Waller, esq. who presented to the church in 1564 and 1572; afterwards Richard Hovell, esq. was lord of it. In the 2d year of king James I. the receiver of Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, accounted for 1100l. paid to Richard Hovell, esq. for the purchase of the manor of Roydon; and in the next year a fine was levied thereof, and of lands bought there of Thomas Foster and Edward Callow, &c.

The said earl, by deed dated April 13, in the 8th of king James, granted to Owen Shepherd, the next presentation of this church, to which is his seal of arms, four coats, viz. Howard, Brotherton, Warren and Mowbray, within the garter; and died possessed of it in 1616, and then came to Thomas Howard earl of Arundel, his heir, and afterwards

to the Howards, earls of Berkshire, and to the present lord, the earl of Suffolk.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory.

The present rector is the Rev. Philip Pyle.

RUNCTON, NORTH. This lordship was in the lords Bardolf of Hoo, and in this family it continued till the death of Thomas lord Bardolf, who was attainted and beheaded, being in rebellion against king Henry IV, and that king granted it to his brother, Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter.

In the 1st of king Edward VI. Christopher Coningsby, esq. of Wallington, was found to die seized of it, and left it to his three daughters and coheirs, Elizabeth, Ann, and Amy. Francis Gawdy, esq. by the marriage of Elizabeth, the eldest, had a third part of the same: Thomas Clark, esq. of Hampshire, who married Amy, and Alexander Balam, esq. who married Ann, held the other two parts in the 1st of Elizabeth, which were purchased by the said Gawdy, afterwards a knight, and lord chief justice of the common pleas. At his death in, or about 1605, it came to his daughter and heir Elizabeth, who by sir William Hatton, alias Newport, had a daughter and heir Frances, married to Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, lord of this town in her right, and was sold by him on the 1st of June, in the 12th year of king James I. to George Cremer, alias Skryme, which George was third son of John Cremer, of Snettisham in Norfolk.

This lordship is now by marriage in the family of lord Fitz-Williams in Ireland.

To

To this town the hamlets of Setchy Magna and Hardwick belong.

SANDRINGHAM, called Sant-Derfingham in the book of Doomſday, from Sand and Derfingham. This town adjoins to Derfingham to the north, and to Weſt Newton ſouth; lies about eight miles north-eaſt of Lynn. The diſtances meaſured with the wheel from Lynn, through Caſtle-Riſing, over Sandringham heath, and through Derfingham, to Snettifham and Hunſlanton Cliff, St. Edmund's Point, are as follow:

	Miles
From the ſouth gate at Lynn to the croſs in the market	1
To the toll-gate at Gaywood	2
To Caſtle-Riſing	3
To Babingley Lane over the bridge	1
By Sandringham lodge to the ſhip at Derfingham	3
To Mr. Hoſſe's plantations	1
To Ingoldiſthorpe common by Mount Amelia	1
From Ingoldiſthorpe fall-gate by Newbridge and Mrs. Styleman's plantations, to Snettifham	1
From Snettifham to Mr. Rolfe's plantations at Heacham	3
From Heacham to Hunſlanton Cliff	3
Total	19

WOOD HALL, probably the name of the houſe formerly, as well as the manor.

In the 20th of Edward III. Roger de Sandringham held it: it came not long after into the family of the Cobbes by the marriage of the daughter and heiress of Rivet.

It

It continued in the family of the Cobbes till the year 1686, in the reign of James II.

The last of the Cobbe family in possession was Jeffrey, who married the daughter of Isaac Astley, of Melton-Constable, esq. He sold this lordship about the year 1686 to sir Edward Atkins, lord chief baron of the exchequer, who shortly after conveyed it to James Hoste, esq. son of Theodore Hoste, and Jane, daughter of James Desmarstres, a rich merchant of London, who by Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Sley, alderman of London, had James Hoste, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, of Houghton in Norfolk, by whom he had James Hoste, esq, whose son and heir, James, married Susan, daughter of Anthony Hammond, esq. of South Wotton by Lynn, leaving a daughter and heiress, Susan, who married Henry Cornish Henley, esq.

The arms of Hoste, azure, a bull's head, cabosed, argent, winged and horned, or.

William Cobbe, grandson of William, and Mary his wife, daughter of sir Henry Bedingfield, of Ox-borough, bart. and who was only ten years old at the death of his father Jeffrey Cobbe, July 14, 1623, was a great loyalist, and a colonel in the army: he distinguished himself much in the civil wars, and suffered considerably for his attachment to the king's cause; probably he was rewarded, like most other loyalists, after the restoration of Charles II. as we find him selling his estate in the second year of the next reign.

On Sandringham heath is dug up great plenty of stone, called carr or iron stone. A great quarry of
this

this carr stone may be seen at Snettisham, in a close, the property of Nicolas Styleman, esq. which is by far superior to that found on Sandringham heath: the stones dug out are larger and more durable. Sir Robert Walpole built the stables at Houghton of this carr stone, taken from a close adjoining to Mr. Styleman's quarry. It is soft and crumbling at first, and has the appearance of brown sugar, and is often ludicrously called so, but it hardens by being exposed in the air, and grows durable by age,

The church of Sandringham stands upon an eminence, is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and is a rectory. The Rev. James Sharp is the present rector.

On a grave-stone near the font, with a brass plate: *Here under lyeth William Cobbes, of Sandringham in the county of Norfolk, who married Dorothy, one of the doughters of Syr John Spelman, Knyght, and had yssue betweyxt them iiij sons and viii doughters, and the sayd William decessed the xviii day of January in the xxxviii yere of Kyng Henry the viii. A°. Dni. M.CCCC.XII.* Also on brass plates the arms of Cobbe, per chevron, sable and gules, in chief, two swans, proper, repectant, and in base, a herring cobb, naiant, or; and Boteler quarterly, impaling Spelman and Narburgh, quarterly.

In the church-yard, on the north side, are these altar tombs, covered with black slabs.

One—*In memory of Theodore Hoste, Esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of — Burleigh, Esq. impaling argent, a lion rampant, sable, and a fess wavy, azure, over all, and died in 1725.*

Another

Another of—*James Hofte, esq. who died 1729*, impaling Walpole: he married —, a daughter of sir Edward Walpole, of Houghton.

Also one for—*Js. Hofte, Esq. who died 1744*, impaling Hammond: he married Susan, daughter of Anthony Hammond, of South Wotton, esq. azure, three doves, between two chevronels, or.

There also lies interred on the north side, two sons of the late major James Hofte, both of whom died minors: by their decease, the Sandringham estate devolved to their sister Susan, the only daughter of the major, who became heiress, and married Henry Cornish Henley, esq. of Leigh in Dorsetshire, who died high sheriff of that county in the year 1774. His father was representative in parliament for Lyme Regis, and on August 28, 1740, married Catherine, daughter and heiress of the Rev. Hugh Charles Hare of Docking: he died May 8, 1748: his relict Catherine died October 15, 1778, having survived Mr. Henley thirty years. At her decease, she left her estates at Docking and Southmere to John Henley, esq. youngest son of her late husband, and brother to the late Henry Cornish Henley, esq. of Sandringham, also brother to the lady of Nicolas Styleman, esq. of Snettisham.

By the death of the two sons of major Hofte, the family estates at Derfingham and Ingoldisthorpe, for want of issue male, devolved to the late captain Hofte, and at his decease in April, 1778, to Dixon Hofte, esq. his eldest son.

SETCHY MAGNA, and HARDWICK, are two hamlets belonging to North Runcton: Setchy Magna is on the great road from London to Lynn,
on

on a navigable river, called (higher up) the Nar; but in an old record we find the river here called the Eye, and so probably takes its name, as set on that river, over which there is here a bridge.

It was part of the lord Bardolf's manor of Runc-ton, and that lord had a charter of free warren at Magna Setchy, anno 33d of Henry III. with a weekly market on Monday, and two fairs in the year. From those lords it passed as above, and was part of the earl of Warwick's manor of Runc-ton, who in the reign of king James I. had the grant of a market here every fortnight on Tuesday, for fat cattle; and butchers from Norwich, and all parts of this country resort to it.

The church of North Runc-ton is dedicated to All Saints. In 1701, August 15, the old church was destroyed by the fall of the tower upon it, and about 1710, rebuilt, the following gentlemen, &c. being the principal benefactors to it.

William lord Fitz Williams gave 100*l*. Rowland Okeover, esq. 50*l*. Trinity College, Cambridge, 20*l*. sir Ralph Hare, bart. 10*l*. sir John Turner 2*l*. Robert Walpole, esq. 5*l*. John Turner, esq. 5*l*. 13*s*. 4*d*. Henry Bell 15*l*. Henry Towers 17*l*. Charles Wright, rector, 20*l*. William Adamson, clerk, 5*l*. James Everard, clerk, 5*l*.

The present rector is the Rev. Philip Bell, who was presented in the year 1777.

Robert Coney, esq, late lieutenant colonel of the Norfolk militia, and while that corps was embodied in the late war and marched out of the county, has a handsome seat in this town.

SOUTH LYNN was a lordship at the time of the Conqueror, and had several manors in it. It was a distinct village from the borough of Lynn, as appears by the following presentment.

In the 38th of Henry III. the jury present, that there was a common way from this village to Lynn Bishop's, beyond the bridge called South Bridge, which bridge wanted to be repaired, and they say that the men of the burgh always, from time immemorial, used to repair and build anew that part of the bridge called the draught, and that they ought not to repair any other part.

GODSCROFT or WESTACRE MANOR at the dissolution came to the crown.

MANOR of SCALES HOW. Sir Edmund Thorpe was lord in the 3d of Henry IV. in right of the lady Joan his wife, relict of the lord Scales: in this family it continued till Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas lord Scales, brought it by marriage to Anthony Woodville, lord Scales; and on her death the families of Howard and Tindale were her heirs.

On a division of the estate of the Scales's, on the accession of king Henry VII. to the crown, this manor, &c. (as may be seen in Middleton) came to the earl of Oxford, as one of the heirs; and on the death of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, without issue, to his sisters and coheirs.

Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, &c. was capital lord of this manor in the 3d of Henry VI.

SETCHY PARVA was a hamlet in the parish of South Lynn. In this Setchy Parva, on the banks of

of the river, and near the Ouse river, was HALL PLACE or MANOR.

In the 11th year of king Edward III. Matthew Herlewine conveyed by fine and trust to Thomas Duraunt, parson of Clenchwarton, William Duraunt of South Lynn, and John Kervyle of Wiggenghall, seven messuages, a saltwork, seventy-five acres of land, twenty-nine of meadow, a turbary, forty shillings rent, a fishery at Setchy hithe, with appurtenances in South Lynn, West Winch, Wiggenghall, and North Runcton, and the advowson of the hospital of St. Laurence at Hardwick dam, together with the rents, homages, services, &c. of the master of the said hospital, of the prior of Wormegay, the prior of Westacre, and of John de Lenn.

This manor continued in the family of the Duraunts from the time of Edward III. till the reign of Henry VI. Afterwards it came to the Waltons and the Bedingfields.

In the 17th of Edward IV. Edmund Bedingfield was lord; and in a court held of this manor, grants to John Norris, vicar of South Lynn, the scite of the hospital of St. Laurence, which was then burnt, till it was rebuilt.

In the family of the Bedingfields, of Oxburgh, in remained till sir Henry Bedingfield, bart. sold it in the reign of king George I. to the lord Fitz Williams, in which family it remains.

This village of South Lynn was always a distinct and separate place from King's Lynn, till in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, it was granted to be annexed as a member of that burgh for ever, under

the same government, and to enjoy the same privileges, and to be exempt from any power or authority of the sheriff of Norfolk.

Several religious houses had possessions here.

Here was also a house called the White House, or the Dairy, with one hundred and seventy-three acres of pasture and meadow, held by sir George Kemp, knight, of Pentlow hall in Essex, in the 9th of Charles I.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a vicarage. It is a regular pile, built in form of a cross, with three isles and a chancel, covered with lead, the whole being about one hundred and forty feet long; the breadth of the isles forty-eight feet, the cross isle eighty-three feet long; at the west end was a strong tower, four square, with battlements of stone, and thereon a shaft, with the weather-cock; the tower being about eighty-two feet high, and the shaft thirty; and five tuneable bells.

The tower fell down in 1763, and part of the end of the church, which is now repaired with a strong brick wall; on the top of which is a kind of cupola, of wood, &c. in which hangs one small bell.

In the chancel lies a marble grave-stone with the arms of Baron; in chief, a crescent, and decrescent, and in base, a mullet.

*Juxta patris tumulum charissimi et medicinæ doctoris
eximii, hic situs est Andr. Baron, M. A. collegium Pe-
trense apud Cantabrig. utrosq; alumnos fovebat, utrosq;
sociorum titulo merito adornavit, mater summa cum amo-
re filios amplexa est, et filij matrem. Virtutes modestia
semper*

Semper vetuit resonari, flet itaq; monumentum. Patris obitum proximus indicat lapis, hic filij qui quicquid fuit mortale deposuit Aug. 14, A. D. 1719, ætat. 74. Utriq; hic juxta pace requiescant, utriq; ad gloriam juxta resurgant.—Hic jacet Sam. Baron, M. D. qui post hanc vitam quam bonis operibus, et vera pietate ornaverant, cælo donatus est 29 Apr. A. D. 1673.

The plate belonging to the communion is considerable, in the whole one hundred and fifty-four ounces ten penny weights; ³⁶about one hundred and thirty ounces of it was the gift of the lady Etheldreda Hovell, relict of sir William Hovell, of Hillington, sole daughter and heir of Thomas Lilly.

At the dissolution this impropriate rectory being in the crown, was assigned to the lady Mary, before she came to the crown, and was valued at 11l. 9d. per ann.

In the 20th of James I. it was possessed by sir John Jolleys.

In the year 1718 the Rev. Thomas Pyle, (minister of St. Margaret's afterwards) was presented to this vicarage by the Bishop of Ely: on his decease the bishop presented the Rev. Charles Phelps, the present vicar.

WALTON, EAST, The principal part of this town was in the hands of Roger Bigot, a Norman chief, ancestor of the earls of Norfolk.

This town is in the hundred of Freebridge Lynn, and is called East Walton to distinguish it from West Walton in Freebridge Marshland. It borders upon Westacre, and was a beruite formerly depending up-

on the lordship of Pentney. It lies east from Lynn about ten miles, and north-west from Swaffham seven.

WEST DEREHAM ABBEY MANOR. This manor was given to the abbot and canons of West Dereham, in the reign of Richard I. and the abbot held it in the reign of Henry IV.

On the 5th of July, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Robert Forman, abbot of West Dereham, leased to William Baker, yeoman, of East Walton, for sixty years from Michaelmas before the date, the site of the said manor, with all the houses, closes, meadows, demesne lands, liberty of foldage, profits of courts, fines, amerciaments, wards, marriages, reliefs, escheats, &c. and on the 11th of April king Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted it to Thomas bishop of Norwich, and his successors, and it is held of the bishop, by lease, at this day. Bishop Scambler leased it for eighty years, in 1588, to queen Elizabeth, at 8l. per ann.

LANGLEY ABBEY MANOR. The abbot of Langley held lands here in the reign of Henry III.

PRIOR OF PENTNEY'S MANOR. Part of this lordship was held by the prior of Pentney.

RICHMOND FEE, OF MANOR. Alan, earl of Richmond in Yorkshire, had a part of this township conferred on him by the Conqueror, for his eminent services.

In the 14th of Henry VI. John duke of Bedford died seised of this fee, as part of his honour of Richmond; and in the 35th of that king, Edmund earl of

of Richmond was found to have it, and George lord Latimer held it under him: and Richard lord Latimer held it of the said honour, in the 9th of Henry VII.

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. Ralph de Tony gave lands to the priory of Westacre, and the prior held lands here in the reign of Henry III.

After the dissolution this manor was conveyed to the Howards, and in the time of queen Elizabeth to sir William Dean.

HOWARD and STRANGE'S MANOR. Ralph de Beaufoe, a Norman baron, had also a lordship in this town.

This lordship assumed the name of Strange's, from William le Strange, who held it in the reign of Henry III, by the fourth part of a fee, of the heirs of Beaufoe; but in the 20th of Edward III. Robert L'Estrange held it of Hubert de Rye: the prior of Castleacre had part of it; and in the 25th of the said king, sir John Howard was found to hold it on his death of the aforesaid Roger, by the service of 2s. per ann. and it was valued at 15l. per ann.

William Walton, of East Walton, had it conveyed to him by fine, in the 21st of Richard II. from William Curson and Maud his wife.

But in the 2d of Henry VI. Peter Prior, rector of Hellefden in Norfolk, (being a trustee for it as we take it) demised it to Alice, widow of sir John Howard, in fee: and in the 16th of that king, sir John Howard, senior, died seised of it, leaving it to his grand-daughter Elizabeth, wife to John de Vere earl

of Oxford, and it was in the Oxford family in the reign of king Henry VIII.

The other moiety was in fir Robert Southwell, who was found to hold it of the lord Morley, in the 6th of Henry VIII. and Richard Southwell, esq. was his cousin and heir.

In an account of the estate of that family, it appears that fir Richard granted it to fir Thomas Gresham, knight.

Here was also a lordship granted by king Henry VIII. to fir Richard Southwell, in the 38th of that king, and after regranted to that king on an exchange for other lands in the said year, December 11, given by the king to Christ's college, Oxford, and held of that college by fir Edward Barkham, bart. and after by the Spelmans, his heirs, and now by Philip Case, esq.

The church of East-Walton is dedicated to St. Mary, and, together with the chapel of St. Andrew, was a rectory formerly: afterwards it was appropriated to Westacre priory, and a vicarage was settled.

In the chapel, at the east end, lie several marble grave-stones.—On one the arms of the lord Richardson, or, on a chief, sable, three lions heads erased, of the first, impaling Barkham, argent, three pallets, gules, a chevron over all, or.—*In memory of Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Barkham, of Southacre, Gent. wife of the honourable Lord William Richardson, baron of Cramond, who died September 28, 1712, in the 54th year of her age.*

On another, with the said two impaled coats, an escutcheon of pretence, argent, a pale fufily, fable, Daniel.

In memory of the Honourable William, Lord Richardson, who died March 7, 1719.

The arms of Richardson in a lozenge, with the escutcheon of pretence.—*In memory of Elizabeth, second wife of the Honourable William, Lord Richardson, who died December 8, 1722, in the 37th year of her age.*

On another, lord Richardson in the first and fourth quarter, and in the second and third, ermine, on a canton, azure, a saltire, argent, supported by two horses, ermine;—crest, an unicorn's head, ermine, issuing out of a ducal coronet;—the motto, *Virtute acquiritur honos*.

In memory of the Right Honourable William, Lord Richardson, baron of Cramond in North Britain, who died July 28, 1735, in the 21st year of his age.

Also fable, five wings in saltire, or; crest, a demi eagle, wings displayed.

Hic jacet Robertus Purland, A. M. coll. Geno. et Caij Cantab. olim alumnus mox vicarius de East Walton, tandem rector de Southacre, vir pietate, pariter ac probitate, et prudentia insignis; pastor vigilantissimus, amicus fidiſſimus, maritus amantiſſimus, pater natiſſimus qui postquam gregi huic per L. annos, et quod excurrit invigilaverat, tandem obdormivit in Domino Maij 21, 1723.

The title of Richardson, a very old barony, became extinct in this William lord Richardson, who
was

was educated at the free grammar school of Norwich, under the Rev. Mr. Reddington, a man of great learning, and an excellent school-master, in whose time the school at Norwich flourished, and was in great repute.

Lord Richardson's family seat was at Westacre, and called, as at this day, Westacre High-house; a name probably given to it from its situation. It is at present in the possession of Anthony Hammond, esq.

Lord Richardson left a sister, heiress to his fortune though not his title, who was married to William Jermy, esq. son of her guardian, counsellor Jermy, of the close in Norwich. She has been dead many years, and left no children.

The present vicar is the Rev. Mr. Lemon, presented by Edward Spelman, esq. in 1755, who built the present house at Westacre called High-house, and of whom Philip Cafe, esq. purchased this estate at Walton, adjoining to Westacre.

WESTACRE. The MANOR and PRIORY. This town is thus called in respect of its scite on a river, as Southacre, Castle, or Eastacre, all which towns occur in the Conqueror's book of Doomſday, by the name of Acre, without any adjunct or distinction, being all seated on the same stream, or running water, as Acre signifies in the Saxon tongue—(see Castleacre.)

At the survey it was the lordship of Ralph de Tony, descended from Malahulcius, uncle to Rollo, grandfather to William the Conqueror, and son of Roger de Tony, by Alice his wife, daughter of William

liam Fitz Osborn, one of the Conqueror's lords and generals, and created by him earl of Hereford,

Roger de Tony was standard-bearer of Normandy, and Ralph the son inherited the same office, was a Norman baron, and attended duke William in the decisive battle of Hastings; and for his great services was rewarded with many lordships in Berkshire, Hertfordshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, and with these following in Norfolk :

Necton, Bradenham, Pickenham, Cressingham Parva, Caldecote, Culesthorpe and Bodney, in South Greenhoe hundred—Ickburgh, Sturton and Carbrooke, in Grimshoe hundred—Framham, Dunham and Godwick, in Launditch hundred—Shingham in Clackclose hundred—Walton, Acre, Thorpe, Lynn and East Winch, in Freebridge hundred—Breccles in Weyland hundred—Wretham Magna and Parva, in Shropham hundred.

Ralph de Tony was the founder of the priory of Westacre, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, and with his wife, his sons Roger and Ralph, granted for their own souls and their ancestors, his manor of Westacre, with the parish church dedicated to All Saints, to Oliver the priest, or rector of it, and Walter his son; to which deed were witnesses Gilbert Blond, William de Portis, William de Lira, George Gros, &c. with all the soc of Noienton. It was a cell of the priory of Lewes.

On this grant, Oliver and Walter his sons entered into the order of Cluniac monks of this priory, Not only priests, but even bishops, were in this age married, and no restraints in this respect were laid upon them. The popes, Boniface I. and Fœlix III. were

were sons of priests ; and Gelarius was the son of a bishop, &c.

The founder gave them also the manor and advowson of Godwick.

The priory had the patronage of the following churches, or vicarages, their rectories being appropriated to it:—Breccles, Rougham, West Bassham, Marham, Narford, Appleton, Ashwicken, Lefiate, Wiggshall St. Mary's, and South Lynn, with two parts of the rectory of Narborough, and the rectory appropriated of Neston,

The churches of Westacre and Runhall were wholly appropriated, and served by a curate.

The church of Bodney was in their patronage.

A portion of the rectory of Neston belonged to them.

The last prior of this convent was William Wingfeld, who occurs in 1526, and with fifteen monks of this priory, on August 31, 1534, subscribed to the king's supremacy; and on January 14, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. with eight of his monks, surrendered this priory to the king, who granted to them pensions for life.

The convent boasted that they had a piece of St. Andrew's finger, set in silver, which they had pawned for 40*l*. but the visitors did not think fit to redeem it at that price.

On the seal of the priory was the following legend:

SIGILLVM.

*SIGILLVM. CAPITVLI. BEATE. MARIE. ET.
OMNIVM. SANCTORVM. DE. WESTACRE.*

On the reverse is a small head couped, and round it

MVNDVS. AGIT. MVNDVM. CONTERE. MVNDVS. ERIS.

Above this head is a star, below it a crescent. We are inclined to think this head is to represent Thomas of Becket, archbishop of Canterbury.

The priory church stood a little space eastward of the present farm house, and was a large pile, built in a cathedral or conventual manner, as may be traced out from its scite and foundation; only part of the tower at the west end of the south isle is now remaining: the cloister joined to this south isle, and there was a door here leading into the west end of the south isle, and another out of it into the church, by the great tower that stood between the church and the choir. On the east side of the cloister was a way leading into the chapter-house, the north and south walls of which are partly standing, as is part of the dormitory, which was either over part of the west side of the cloister, or joined to it.

The gate-house, leading out of the town into the outward court, or scite of the priory, is still standing; over the center of the arch as you enter, are three shields carved in stone:—Quarterly in the first and fourth, gules, a fess, between six cross crosslets, or, Beauchamp earl of Warwick; in the second and third, checque, or, and azure, a chevron, ermine, Tarquin earl of Warwick; and in an escutcheon of pretence, argent, a maunch, gules, lord Tony. On the

the right side of this is the shield of Tony, and on the left side that of Beauchamp; by the first shield, bearing Tony in an escutcheon of pretence, it appears that this gate-house, which is of stone, was built by Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, who married Alice, sister and heir to Robert lord Tony, which Guy died in 1315.

King Henry VIII. in his 30th year, March 15, granted to Mary duchess of Richmond and Somerset, for life, the site of this priory, with the manor and appropriated rectory; and she by deed, dated at Kenninghall, confirmed to Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Holland, of Swineshead in Lincolnshire, esq. an annuity of 20l. out of it. King Edward VI. in his 7th year, July 1, granted the reversion to sir Thomas Gresham.

After the death of sir Thomas, it was sold to Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter, who conveyed it to Horatio Palavicini, an Italian, who before his coming into England, had dipped his fingers very deep into the treasures of the church, as Spelman relates; that is, being treasurer, or having some office in the pope's treasury at Rome, had robbed it and fled.

Sir Toby, his youngest son, inherited it, and after many suits, &c. with his eldest brother Edward, having consumed his estate, sold it to sir Edward Barkham, alderman of London, and lord mayor in 1621, created baronet June 28, 1623; from which family it came to Charles Yallop, esq. son and heir of sir Robert Yallop, by the marriage of Helen, daughter and heiress of sir Edward Barkham, bart. whose son, Edward Spelman, esq. taking that name from his grand-father, sir Robert Yallop's marriage
with

with Dorothy, daughter of Clement Spelman, esq. of Gray's-Inn, one of the barons of the exchequer, conveyed it, in 1761, to Richard Hammond, esq. of South Wootton; and the ruins of this venerable priory, now converted into a farm-house, are in the possession, with all the abbey lands, of Anthony Hammond, esq. of High-house, nephew of the late Richard Hammond, and eldest son of Robert Hammond, esq. late of Swaffham in this county.

The church of Westacre is dedicated to All Saints, and built mostly of flint stones, and embattled. It was a rectory, and appropriated to the priory.

The tower is four-square and embattled, has one bell, and both church and chancel are covered with tile.

On the battlements of the church and tower are the arms of sir Edward Barkham, the first baronet of that name, who repaired and ornamented it,—argent, three pallets, gules, over all, a chevron, or; impaling the arms of his lady;—argent, on a pale, sable, three crosses pattee, or, in a bordure ingrailed of the second, Crouch.

He had a large manor house, or hall, in this parish, called High-house, which he built.

Sir Edward erected several seats of oak in the church, with a pulpit and reading desk, wainscoting the chancel and seating it, inclosing the communion table.

His descendant, sir Edward, gave in 1672 a silver cup, gilt, weighing ten ounces, with his arms, and a cover of five ounces; a silver patten, gilt, of about
nineteen

nineteen ounces, with a silver flaggon, gilt, about sixty-one ounces.

CUSTHORPE, was a village in the Saxon age, and at the survey called Culestorpa, and Sculatorpa, as seated on a shoal or shallow water: it stood on the south side of the river Nar, directly opposite to Westacre, but was in South Greenhoe hundred; the lord Tony being lord of it at the survey, and so being as a beruite to Westacre, we have here accounted for it.

This was most likely given by the lord Tony to his priory on the foundation of it, and at the dissolution was granted to the duchess of Richmond, and so came to Edward Spelman, esq. the late lord, and to Richard Hammond, esq.

On this part the convent, as we take it, built a large chapel, now in ruins, called Becket's chapel, dedicated to that archbishop, where on July 7 was an annual fair: at the north-east point of this chapel was an house or cell, wherein a custos and a monk or two dwelt, and performed service; by this, not only pilgrims used to pass to the Lady of Walsingham, but many also came on purpose to pay their devotion here, where likely there might be some particular reliet of that archbishop.

View and report of the commissioners appointed by king Henry VIII. at the dissolution.

" The vyew of the account of Richard Layton, Doctor of the Lawes, and Archdeacon of Buckingham, Robert Sowthwell, attorney for the augmentations of your grace's most noble crowne, and sir Thomas L'Estrange, knight, commissioners by your highnes

higness assigned for the viewing, valewing and selling of all the Jewelles, plate, belles, lead, goods and chattels, apperteyning to the late monastery of Westacre, in the countie of Norfolk, made and declared to sir Edward North, knight, chancellor of the court of Augmentations of the revennues of the kinge's crowne, and others the counsaile of the sayd court, upon dyverse perticuler booke thereof, to them shewed and delyvered the xiiiith day of November, in the xxxvith yere of the reigne of our soveraigne Lord King Henry the Eighth.

Juels and plate.

One lytle crosse plated with sylver, two challesses, one lytle salt with the cover, parcell gilt, and xi sylver spones, all valewed by indifferent persones, at vii. xvs. iiid. and sold by the sayd commissioners, to Richard Sturges, for viii. xvs.

Belles VI.

Weying mv. Dccc lb. 1 quarter, every hundredth valewed at xxis. amounten to the some of — — — lxi. iiis. vi d.

Lead in fowes, ccccxl.

Weying cxxxvi ffooders and a half, every ffooder valued at iiil. amounten to — clxvii.

Ornaments of the church of the monastery.

Vieued and pryed by indifferent p'sones byn solde by the sayd commissioners, for — xxxii. vi d.

Goodes, cattalle and other movables.

Vieued and pryed by indifferent p'sones at ccxi. xviiis. iiid. and sold by the sayd commissioners nere
X for

for the same and xxii l. over in gayn, which in the
hoole amounteth to the some of ccxxxiii l. xvii s. 3d.

Iron, glasse, stone, and diverse old buildings.

Sold by the sayd commissiioners to dyverse and
fondrye p'sones, as by a perticular booke of the
same, may appeare, for — lxvii l. 11 s. vid.

Debts owing to the sayde late monastery.

Thomas Wingfeld, as by his reconings apper-
eth — — — — — clxviii l.

The same Thomas for xl shepe to him delivered
by the late prior at xvi d. the pece, — liii s. iiid.

William Alyson of Cambridge, goldsmith, for
plate to him sold over and besides xv l. to him remit-
ted by the late prior. — — — — — xiiii l.

William Calybutte, for six ewers to him sold by
the sayd late pryor, to be paid at Midfomer next xl.

Redye Monye receyved.

Of the aforefyd Thomas Wingfeld, as by his
sayd reconing appereth — — — — — clx l.

Of sir Thomas le Straunge, knight, as by his re-
coning appereth — — — — — vii l. xv s. vid.

Of dyverse tenants for the arreragies of their rents
and fermes due at Mighelmas and Christmas last,
viii l. xv s.

Paid to

Dyverse p'sones for fundrie somes of monye to
them due by the late prior, for wagies and debts, as
by a book of the particulers of the same doth ap-
pere — — — — — lvi l. xix s. vii d. ob.

Dyverse other persons for taking downe of the
belles and wayeing of the same, plucking downe of
the

the leade melting and weyng of the same, and defasyng, and pulling downe of the church dordre and other howses, as by the boke appereth xxiii l. xiiis.

The commissioners for their costes and expences ryding from London to the sayd late monastery, and there being with dyverse with them for the suppressing, dissolving, and defasyng of the same by five weekes, and for their costes and expences in returning to London agayn, — xxviii l. xiiis. viid.

And so Remayneth in

Belles unfold remaying there in the hands of Richard Sturges, fermour to the king's majestie's use — — — lxi l. iiis. viid.

Lead unfold, likewyse remayning in the hands of the sayd Richard Sturges, to his highnes use, dcxlvil,

Ornaments of the church delivered by the sayde commissioners to the majest. owne handes, at Whitehall in London, amounting to the some of — — — lxi l.

Debt owing to the late monastery as afore appereth xiiii l. xiiis. iiid.

Monye owing for part of the goodes, catalles, and other moveables folde as a specialtie with the sayd commissioners remayning appereth — — — cxx l.

Redye monye in the handes of the said Rd. Layton — — — cclxxix l. xiiis. xid.

WINCH, EAST. In the book of Doomsday it is called Winic, from Win, which in the British language signifies water, and Ic or Ise, a general name in these parts for any stream or rivulet, the inhabitants of this part of the heptarchy or East Angles, being called by the Romans the Iceni; also Wininc, as seated in a west meadow.

The principal lordship at the survey was in the crown. Godric farmed it, or had the care of it for the king.

In king Edward's time it was a beruite to Sporle, a considerable lordship belonging to the crown, in the hundred of South Greenhoe.

GRANCOURT'S MANOR. This manor, with Sporle, which was royal demefne, was given (as some say) by king Edward to Ralph Waker, or Gauder, earl of Norfolk, but Dugdale more truly supposes him to be of Britanny in France, and to be made earl by the Conqueror, and was taken as a beruite or lordship of Sporle.

On his rebellion, it is certain, if he ever was in possession of it, (which does not clearly appear) it was forfeited to the Conqueror, and after the making the book of Doomſday, was granted by the Conqueror to Alan, son of Flaald.

The first that we meet with upon record to be lord after this, is sir Ralph L'Eſtrange, who lived in the reign of Henry II. and gave the rectory of this church to the priory of Carrowe by Norwich, which was afterwards appropriated to that house by Robert Sherwing, bishop of Norwich.

Sir William de Calthorpe, who married Cecilia, daughter of Philip de Burnham, sister and coheir of William de Burnham, had a right herein; and in the 45th of Henry III. they granted it by fine to William de Grancourt, and his heirs, to be held of them; and Walter de Grancourt, son of William, was lord in the 14th of Edward I.

William

William Howard purchased it of Thomas de Grancourt in the 26th of Edward I.

This was fir William Howard, the famous judge, founder of the noble family of the Howards, ancestor to the dukes of Norfolk, &c. It appears that he resided here in the 34th of the aforesaid king, from the accounts of the chamberlains of Lynn, in the said year, when several presents were sent to him and his lady from the corporation, for his good services, viz.

Item in uno carcos. bovis misso D'ne Alice Howard usq; Wynch vi sol.——It. in vino p. duas vices miss. D'no Willo. Howard cum duobus carcos. vitul. et uno scuto apri. xiii sol. viiid.——It. in duob; salmon. miss. D'no. Willo. Howard vigil. pasche xi sol.

This fir William was found to hold it by the fourth part of a fee, of Richard earl of Arundel.

He was an eminent lawyer, and before he was a judge, a counsellor retained by that corporation, with an annual pension.

In the 5th of Edward III. fir John Howard, sen. was found to hold of Hamon L'Estrange the manor of East Winch.

Sir Roger Langley, bart. was lord of this manor in the year 1716, and it is now in the family and heirs of fir John Tyrrell, bart. of Essex.

PENTNEY PRIORY MANOR. . Roger Bigot had the grant of a lordship in this village from the Conqueror.

This manor was granted to the prior of Pentney in the year 1250.

In 1428, the temporalities of this convent were valued at 8l. 18s. 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$ per ann. King Henry VIII. at the dissolution, granted it, February 14, in his 29th year, for a certain term of years, to Thomas earl of Rutland, and John Dethick, gent. farmed it of the said earl at 10l. 2s. 5d. per ann. King Edward VI. in his 4th year, April 11, gave it to the see of Norwich, and it is held at this time, by lease, of that bishop.

It is said to be called in the grant of king Edward VI. Grancourt's manor, lately belonging to the priory of Pentney, but without any reason, as far as we have seen, and was leased to queen Elizabeth in 1588, for eighty years, by Dr. Scambler, bishop of Norwich, at 10l. 7s. 6d. per ann.

The church is dedicated to All Saints.

In the chancel east window are the arms of Vere, earl of Oxford, of Howard, Vere and Howard impaled, also p. pale, or, and gules, a lion passant, argent, Flaiz.

Against the north wall is a mural monument of marble, with the arms of Barnes, argent, two bars, counterembattled sable, in chief, three pellets.

Here lyeth under the foot of this wall, the body of Owen Barnes, Gent. third son of William Barnes, the elder, of this place, esq. after he had lived the space of 52 years, changed this life for a better, 1670.

*Quis sim, nosce cujus caro putrida, nil nisi vermis,
Quisquis es, hoc de me fit tibi scire satis.*

On

On the north side of this chancel is the old chapel and burial place of the Howards, dedicated to St. Mary, as appears from the will of sir Robert Howard, who died in 1388, and was here buried, according to his desire. In Weaver's time, his enarched monument against the south wall of the said chapel, with some of the escutcheons wherewith it was ornamented, were to be distinguished, and this part of the epitaph remained,

— — *a'ia*b; *Dni. Robti. Howard, et Margerete,*
uxoris sue,

But this part of the epitaph, with the shields and arms, is defaced, and great part of the monument itself destroyed many years past; also the two grave-stones mentioned by him, and the effigies of one of the Howard family in the east window, (the founder of the chapel) have met with the same fate.

This chapel, in Weaver's time, was much defaced, the lead that covered it being taken off and sold, but was then repairing by Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel and Surry, and at this time is in a worse state than in Weaver's.

Sir Robert Howard abovementioned married Margaret, daughter and coheir of Robert lord Scales, who was buried by her husband: they resided, and died in this town, and it is probable that this chapel was erected by sir William Howard, the judge, who (as we have observed) was lord, and resided here with his family, where it is likely he and others of the family were interred

On the west wall of this chapel is a neat monument of marble, with the arms of Barnes, impaling
X 4 Shepherd,

Shepherd, argent, on a chief, gules, three Danish hatchets, or; and Barnes impaling Hovell, sable, a crescent, or.

Near unto this place lyeth the body of William Barns, esq. son of Edward Barns, of Saham in Cambridgeshire, Esq. who first married Thomafine, daughter of Richard Hovell, of Hillington, esq. by whom he had five daughters, after whose death he took to wife Thomafine, the daughter of Owen Shepherd, of Kirby in this county, Esq. and (removed his seat to this place) had by her five sons and eight daughters, and did for many years with great prudence and fidelity, serve his king and country, in the office of justice of the peace; at length, such was the iniquity of the times, that loyalty was esteemed a crime, when not allurements, or threats from him who usurped the highest power, could seduce him from his constant adherence to his abandoned prince, and the persecuted church of England; he retired to a private life, devoting himself wholly to the service of God and religion, and peaceably departed hence, in the 77th year of his age, 1657, expecting a joyful resurrection. To whose memory, Frances Stanton, his second daughter, out of her tender love and dutiful affection, erected this monument. Semper Idem.

The church was anciently a rectory. The Rev. Charles Phelps is the present vicar.

East Winch is about two miles east of Middleton and five from Lynn.

WINCH, WEST. WEST WINCH MANOR. Rainald, son of Ivo, held the chief lordship of this town at the time of the grand survey, by a grant from the Conqueror, which Godwin, a freeman, earl of Kent, and father of king Harold, held in the reign of the Confessor.

In

In the 6th of Henry VIII. sir Robert Southwell was found to die seised of this manor, which extended into Hardwick, Setchy, and South Lynn, held of the honour of Clare, and ten messuages, five hundred acres of land, forty of meadow, one hundred of pasture, sixty of wood, and ten shillings rent; and left it to his cousin and heir Richard, son of Francis, brother of sir Robert: but in Trinity term, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Richard Southwell, esq. conveyed it to William Coningsby, esq. and it came after that to sir Francis Gawdy, and so to the earl of Warwick, and was bought of him, in the 10th of James I. by John Pell, Gent.

On the 22d of September, in the 18th of king James I. the jury find that Richard Shebbs, of Sedgeford in Norfolk, esq. was possessed of this manor of West Winch, called Fincham's, and that he had enfeoffed therein sir Philip Wodehouse, bart, Edward Paston, esq. &c. by deed dated the 10th of June, in the 12th of the said king, to the use of himself for life, remainder to William Yelverton, jun. (son of sir William, and Dionysia his wife, eldest daughter of the said Richard) and on Ursula his intended wife, daughter of sir Thomas Richardson, &c. and was after in the Pells.

From the family of the Pells it came to the Walpoles, and the earl of Orford is the present lord.

West Winch is situated about two miles south of Lynn, on the London road and turnpike.

WOLFERTON. This town is not named in the book of Doomsday, being a hamlet to the town of Babingley.

The prior of Shouldham had lands in this town.

On the dissolution of the priory, this was granted May 7, anno 36th of Henry VIII. to William Cobbe, esq. to be held by the 20th part of a fee; from the Cobbes it came, with Sandringham, to the Hostes, and so to Henry Cornish Henley, esq.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and is a rectory. The Rev. Henry Crowe is the present rector, presented by the late Henry Cornish Henley, esq. of Sandringham.

There is a harbour at Wolferton for small vessels, which annually bring coals here in the summer.

An extensive brick wall, to keep out the sea from the marshes, was built by major Hoste of Sandringham, at the expence of 1800l. but being ill constructed, has not prevented the sea from breaking over it, and frequently overflowing the neighbouring lands, to the great loss of the late proprietor Henry Cornish Henley, esq. and to the present Mrs. Henley, his relict, who has expended since his decease considerable sums towards the repair of the breaches made in the sea banks.

Wolferton lies upon a point of the Lynn channel, about seven miles north-east of Lynn.

WOOTTON NORTH. This and South Wootton, made at the survey one town, and belonged to one lord.

This town in the reign of queen Elizabeth was in the duke of Norfolk.

These

These two towns of North and South Wootton lie upon the Lynn channel, about three and four miles distant from Lynn, on the left of the road to Castle-Rising; South Wootton, or what is called Wootton Gap, is about a mile from the toll-gate at Gaywood.

WINDHAM PRIORY MANOR took its rise from lands granted by the Albinis to the priory of Windham, who in the reign of Edward I. claimed free warren. In the 2d of Edward II. the priory purchased thirty-six acres of land, three of meadow, six shillings rent per ann. and twenty-six acres of marsh, so that their temporalities were valued at 4l. 8s. 4d. per ann. in 1428; and the prior held in Wootton and Congham the fortieth part of a fee of the earl of Arundel.

After the dissolution it was granted, February 12, in the 5th of Elizabeth, with the impropriate rectory and advowson of the vicarage, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and afterwards to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and passed as in Rising, to the earls of Berkshire, who were lords and patrons; and now is in the earl of Suffolk.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and was formerly a rectory.

Thomas de Blundevile, bishop of Norwich, appropriated it, and a vicarage was settled.

In a wood near Wootton Gap is a spring called Riffley Spring, a place of great resort during the summer season to the inhabitants of Lynn, who every Sunday meet in parties to drink tea and pass the afternoon there. There is a pedestal or obelisk
erected

erected in this wood, called Riffley Wood, near the spring.

This wood is about a mile and a half from the toll-gate at Gaywood towards South Wootton, as by mensuration of the wheel of the distances from Lynn to Snettisham, which began at Snettisham dial, and was taken through Anmer, Castleacre, Swaffham, Downham and Lynn, to Snettisham again: the distances from Lynn to Snettisham have been mentioned in the account of Sandringham, the other distances taken at the same time were as follows.

	Miles
From Snettisham through Shernbourne to Anmer well - - - - -	5
To the guide-post on Pedder's road - - - - -	1
Along Pedder's road to Harpley-dam's shepherd's house - - - - -	2
Along the same road to the 30 mile-stone from Norwich to Lynn - - - - -	4
Along the same to Castleacre river - - - - -	3
To Swaffham cross - - - - -	4
Road to Downham, to Devil's Ditch - - - - -	4
To Fincham fall-gate - - - - -	4
To Stradset fall-gate - - - - -	1
To the crown at Downham - - - - -	4
To Winbotham - - - - -	1
To opposite Stow hall - - - - -	2
To Setchy toll-gate - - - - -	3
To South-gate and Lynn cross - - - - -	5
Total	<hr/> 43 <hr/>

WOOTTON SOUTH. At the time of the survey, it appears that this town, and that of North Wootton

Wootton, as we have observed before, was but one lordship and one town.

In the 7th year of Henry VIII. sir William Capel, knt. lord mayor of London in 1503, died seised of this lordship, held of the castle of Rising; and by his last will and testament, gives this and all other his manors in Norfolk, for life, to Margaret his wife, remainder to his son and heir, sir Giles.

In the 44th of queen Elizabeth, it was held by Thomas Winde, gent. of Arthur Capel, esq.

The last of this family was the late William Winde, esq. who for many years attended on the princess Sophia, mother to king George I. and on her death came into England, and was a commissioner of the salt duties.

About the year 1700, it was possessed by Mr. Harriot, goldsmith, in Fleet-street, London, and afterwards by his son, Dr. Harriot, L. L. D. and in 1762 the widow Harriot possessed it.

Anthony Hammond, esq. who married the sister of sir Robert Walpole, had a seat and a considerable estate in this parish. The family house was pulled down by his eldest son, the late Richard Hammond, esq. on his removing to High House, Westacre, an estate he purchased of the late Edward Spelman, esq.

HOWARD'S MANOR. Sir Robert Howard had possession of this manor in the reign of Richard II. and gave his name to the manor.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary.

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND contains :

· **CLENCHWARTON**, was originally divided into two different towns, North and South Clenchwarton.

It is one of the first parishes over the river, west of Lynn, in Marshland, a peninsula almost surrounded with navigable rivers and an arm of the sea, being a low, marshy, little tract, as the name implies, every where intersected with ditches and drains to draw off the waters, which have over them no less than one hundred and eleven bridges and upwards, and containing about thirty thousand acres of land. The soil is exceeding rich and fertile, but the country and roads with great difficulty passable in the winter season, and the water extremely bad. From Lynn ferry, through Clenchwarton and Terrington, to the Cross-Key Washes, or what is called the *Metaris Æstuarium*, into Lincolnshire, is a distance of about seven miles: the wash over to the Lincolnshire side is about two miles.

The **EARL of CLARE'S MANOR**, was formerly in the Veres, earls of Oxford, afterwards in the Tynals, Southwells, and Calthorpes.

The prior of Walsingham had also a manor, or considerable estate here, of the honour of Clare.

The prior of Shouldham had also a manor held of the said honour of Clare.

The prior of Norwich had also temporalities, and the prior of Castleacre had possessions.

Many

Many other priories had temporalities in this parish, and many families had rights extending into it. It is now in the hands of different proprietors.

The church of Clenchwarton is dedicated to St. Margaret; it consists of a single isle, or a nave, a chancel covered with lead, and has a square tower, with four bells.

In the chancel is a grave-stone—*In memory of Thomas Trise, Alderman of Newark in Nottinghamshire, who died in this town, May 19, 1647.*

On another—*Hic jacet (una cum quinq; ipsius liberis, patre supersite, defunctis) venerabilis vir Marcus Forster, A. M. hujus ecclesiæ rector, qui cum annos quadraginta in agro Domini strenue laborasset ad mercedem recipiendam in cœlestem paradysum evocatus, obiit die Januarij ultimo, A. D. 1719, ætatis suæ 70.*

Also one—*In memory of Roger Spensley, Gent. bur. 16, March, 1650, aged 39.*

On the wood work of the church are the arms of Scales and Inglethorpe.

On a monument in the church-yard—*Maria charissima conjux Rici. Trise Generosi hic sita est Oct. 24, A. D. 1660, ætat. suæ 28.*

*Moribus insignis, forma, pietate, pudore,
Exemplum sexus, atq; corona viri.*

Nec pudendis fuit natalibus, filia nempe unica Henri. Williamson et Marthæ, uxoris suæ, quorum omnium reliquias, hic tumulus habet. On it, ermine, on a chevron sable, a lion rampant, or. on a chief, gules, three mullets

mullets of the first Trise, impaling argent, on a chevron ingrailed, azure, between three trefoils slipped, sable, as many crescents, or, Williamson.

EMNETH, or ENEMETH, so called as lying in the meads or meadows, is an hamlet in the parish of Elm in Cambridgehire, and the isle of Ely; but this hamlet being in Freebridge hundred and in the county of Norfolk, it is necessary to mention it here.

HACKBEACH MANOR. In the 5th of king John it appears that there was a place in the aforesaid hamlet called Hagebech, which gave name to a family then lords of it.

It continued in this family till the reign of Richard II.

But this lordship, on the death of the last sir Robert Hackbech, in king Henry VI.'s time, seems to have come to sir Andrew Ogard, knt. who was found to die possessed of it, Buckenham castle, &c. in the 33d of that king.

Sir Andrew Ogard was a famous general in the wars of France, baron of Denvale, of Beaufoe, Caux, lord of the castle of Favillers in Anjou, of the castle of Mervyle, by St. Savory, of Yffe, by Towke in France, and had to the value of 1000l. per ann. in lands, &c. and in a chest of French gold, at the house of Robert Whitingham, about seven thousand marks of English: he married Margaret, only daughter of sir John Clifton of Buckenham castle.

Afterwards it came to the family of Hewar, and on an inquisition taken September 2, 1579, Thomas Hewer, esq. was found to die seised of this
manor

manor on May 15 in the said year; which extended itself into Walsoken, Upwell and Outwell, held of Philip earl of Arundel, of his manor of West Walton in soccage, and the rent of 5l. 5s. 6d. *ob.* per ann. and of eighty-seven acres of land, meadow and pasture, held of the king, &c. in soccage, and the rent of 44s. 6d. per ann. by Winefred his wife, daughter of John Repps, esq. of West Walton, relict of William Ogard esq. of Enmeth, he had fir Thomas Hewar. This lordship came to the Hewars on the marriage of Ogard's widow: fir Andrew Ogard abovementioned, left at his death Henry Ogard, his son and heir, aged four years; and Andrew Ogard, esq. and George and Henry, sons of Andrew, were feoffees to fir Andrew aforesaid; from some of these this manor passed and came to William Ogard, esq.

Sir Thomas Hewar, by his will dated January 21, in the 5th of king Charles I. left it to his nephew, Lawrence Oxburgh, (and died May 15, in the 6th of that king) who was second son of Thomas Oxburgh, (by Etheldreda his wife) who was the son of Thomas Oxburgh, who died in 1628, and Thomas's wife, sister of fir Thomas Hewar.

In this family it remained till Hewar Oxburgh, esq. sold the manor-house to fir Thomas Peyton, bart. of Hackbeach-hall, and his son conveyed the manor to the said fir Thomas. On his decease it came to Henry Dashwood, esq. his nephew, who took the name of Peyton, according to the will of fir Thomas, and has since been created a baronet.

BELLASIS, OF INGALDESTHORPE'S MANOR. The ancient family of Ingaldesthorpe held a manor here of the prior of Lewes. In the 16th of Edward I.

Thomas son of John de Ingaldesthorpe, settled the manor of Bellasis, in Emneth, on Thomas bishop of Rochester, for life, which Thomas was of the name and family.

In the 20th of Henry VII. a fine was levied between sir James Hobart, sir Richard Southwell, sir Henry Ogard, knights, and Richard Braunchie, esq.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. The manor of Elm belonged to the see of Ely, but the manor which the bishop held in this hamlet of Emneth, was that which belonged to his capital manor of West Walton.

To this hamlet belongs a large chapel, larger than most churches, having a nave, north and south isle, and a chancel, dedicated to St. Edmund the King and Martyr.

Elm is the mother church, has a rector and a vicar, both in the patronage of the see of Ely; the rectory is a sinecure.

At the east end of the south isle of this chapel of Emneth, inclosed with iron rails, is a sumptuous monument erected altarwise, on which lie the effigies of sir Thomas Hewar and his lady, at full length, and at their feet that of a child, his son, who died young. Over this monument is a canopy of marble, &c. supported by marble pillars.

M. S. Thomas Hewar, eques, auratus, vir bonis et honestis moribus præditus, de patria et principe optime meritas, hoc juxta parentes suos hic sepultos monumentum mortis suæ non immemor sibi proposuit.

Duxit in uxorem Emmam Willi. Laurence, de villa Sti. Ivonis in agro Huntingdoniensi, armigi. filiam, spectatæ fidei et vitæ integerrimæ sæminam, de qua unicum filium Thomam teneris annis ablatum suscitavit.

*Fixa fides cælo, dispersaq; fama per orbem,
Te prohibent Hewar, te moriente mori.*

In the said chapel, against the wall, is a neat mural monument of marble, on the summit of it is Hewar, quartering as above, and *Ano. Dni. 1586*; below that, *Altera pars nostri cæli, pars altera terræ.*

Also these shields, Hewar with his quarterings, impaling Repps and Smith, quarterly, as in West Walton; Hewar, &c. impaling argent, two bendlets, sable,—Kay.

*Armiger en Thomas Hewar, Winefredaq; conjux
Armigeri sælix Johannis filia Repsi,*

*Quæ prius insigni Gulielmo nupsit Ogardo,
Lumine nunc cassi tumulo clauduntur in isto.*

Hæc Thomam, Thoma, Thomasina, ac Elizabetha

Fecerat hac triplici gaudentem prole maritum

Margeriam Thomas ducebat post Winefredam,

Uxorem satis extinctam, quæ fuit orta

Edvardi patris generoso sanguine Kaij,

Sed Gulielmi erat hæc primo fidissima conjux,

Laurentini armigeri, sic bis fuit orba marito.

Winefreda obt. 9 Feb. Ao. Dni. 1576, ao. etat. suæ 47, Thomas obt. 12, Martij A. D. 1585, ao. etat. sua 66.

The present rector is the Rev. Henry Southwell, D. D.

ISLINGTON. This village is wrote in Doomf-day-book, Islingetuna, Efingatuna, Ifingetuna, and derives its name from its scite, near to the river Ouse, (called by the Britons Ilse, or Ise) on meadows.

SCALES MANOR. This manor derived its name from the great lord Scales of Middleton, one of the most antient and powerful barons in the county of Norfolk, in former reigns.

This noble family lived for many generations in great splendor and power at the castle of Middleton near Lynn, holding under different princes the highest offices of state. Of this castle some ruins are still to be seen, a plate of which is given in this history.

The gate-house or tower remains pretty perfect, and appears to have been the grand entrance into a spacious square or quadrangle, moated round according to the taste prevailing in times of antiquity, as may be seen at this day at the seat of sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. at Oxburgh near Stoke; so that every great building in those early ages seems to have been designed as much for defence, and to command and controul the country round it, as for magnificence and grandeur. Few of our modern buildings come up to these noble reliques of antiquity: they convey to us no ideas but what luxury inspires; bespeak no family; impress no awe upon the mind; nor bring back to our remembrance the dignity and power of the founder. Houghton-hall alone in this county of Norfolk, stands unrivalled in this particualar, and is an exception to the general rule. Houghton strikes the eye with every idea that magnificence can inspire, and fills the mind at one view

view with the strongest images of grandeur, power and wealth, that could possibly have distinguished the illustrious founder.

This superb palace will carry down to posterity a memorial of sir Robert Walpole, that can be exceeded only by the immortal page of an historian, who shall record hereafter with truth and impartiality, the greatest actions of the greatest ministers!

The gate or tower of the castle of Middleton still remaining, is eighteen yards in height, and is ornamented with turrets about seventeen yards long and nine in breadth: over the arch is the shield of Scales; and this castle was probably built by Thomas lord Scales in the reign of Henry VI. The inside of it is much decayed: the area or quadrangle of the court within is about eighty-four paces long, and forty-six broad.

John Devereux, constable of Dover castle, and keeper of the Cinque Ports, on the 5th of January, in the 12th of Richard II. received of William Tydeman, receiver of the castle, twenty-five shillings of the ward of Robert de Scales, in this town, Middleton, Howe, &c. for two knights fees and an half; and for default of payment for twenty-eight day, seventy shillings at 2s. 6d. per day: and in the 4th of Henry VI. Robert lord Scale was found to have died seized of it, leaving Robert his son and heir, aged six years; and the said Robert dying unmarried it came to his brother, Thomas lord Scales, and by his only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, to Anthony Woodville, (by marriage) earl Rivers, and lord Scales; and having no issue, to the Oxford family, (John de Vere, earl of Oxford) and to the family of Tyndale, on the accession of

king Henry VII. to the crown, as heirs to the late lady Elizabeth Scales, as may be seen in Middleton: but Richard III. on the attainder of Anthony lord Scales, &c. aforesaid, had granted it to his great favourite, John duke of Norfolk, in his 2d year, which grant was then set aside, that duke being attainted.

In the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, John Tyndale had licence to alienate it to William Tyndale and his heirs; afterwards it came to the Southwells.

Francis Southwell and Barbara his wife, held in the 9th of queen Elizabeth, the manor of Illington, forty messuages, twenty cottages, two hundred acres of land, three hundred acres of pasture, one hundred of meadow, ten acres of wood, with the appurtenances in this town, Clenchwarton, and Tilney, *in capite*; and died the 10th of November, in the 24th of Elizabeth.

Miles Southwell, esq. held the same in the 30th of the said reign, in which year, about Easter, it was conveyed by him to sir John Willoughby, knt. of Risley in Derbyshire, ancestor to the present lord Middleton; which Miles was son of Francis Southwell, esq. aforesaid, aged eighteen on his father's death, and had livery of it in or about the 27th of Elizabeth.

Sir John Willoughby was son of sir George Willoughby, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Neale, of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen; which sir George died January 10, 1598, aged 80, and Elizabeth his lady, August 24, 1592, aged 76. Sir John, by Frances his wife, daughter and heir

heir of Henry Hawes, of Hilgay in Norfolk, had sir Henry Willoughby, who alienated it by licence November 19, in the 9th of king James I. to William Guybon, esq. and was held by sir Francis Guybon in 1700, whose son and heir, William Guybon, esq. of Thursford in Norfolk, conveyed it to Anthony Dixon, and Joseph Dixon gave it to his nephew, Thomas Dixon, esq. the present lord, 1778.

INGALDESTHORPE'S MANOR. John de Ingaldesthorpe was lord in the 3d year of king Edward I. and in the 11th of that king died seised of it, and several rents of assize.

In the 1st year of king Edward III. Thomas de Ingaldesthorpe held it by the third part of a fee, as of the honor of Hawley, and the service of 40d. per ann. to Dover castle.

On the inquisition after his death, in the second year of the said king, he is said to have held it in *capite* of the said honour, and it extended into Tilney and Clenchwarton.

In the 8th of that king, John his son and heir paid 33s. 4d. relief, for this manor.

Sir Edmund de Ingaldesthorpe was the last heir male of this family, and dying in or about 1456, left one daughter and heir, Isabel, married to John Neville, marquis Montacute, by whom she had two sons, John who died young, and George Neville duke of Bedford, who dying without issue, the estate of the Ingaldesthorpes was divided amongst his five sisters and coheirs.

BISHOP OF ELY'S MANOR. Saint Audry, or Ethelreda, the monastery of Ely, had lands here.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, it was by act of parliament conveyed to the crown, and in the 21st of James I. was part of the possessions of Charles, prince of Wales.

EARL OF CLARE'S MANOR. This lordship was in Walter Giffard, first earl of Buckingham. Walter the second of that name, earl of Buckingham, was lord in the reign of king Stephen, and on his founding the abbey of Nutley in Buckinghamshire, gave a portion of tithe, belonging to his lordship here and in Tilney, to that house, as he did likewise at Middleton; and from this earl, by the marriage of a daughter, (as is said) it came to the earl of Clare.

LORD BARDOLF'S MANOR. The chief lordship was held by the lord Scales, but the principal tennures and lands belonging to it lay in Tilney, and not in Ilington, and mostly in the lord Bardolf's manor of Tilney, from whom it took its name.

RICHMOND'S FEE. Alan, earl of Richmond, had lands here at the time of the conquest.

The bishop of Baieux (Odo) had this on the forfeiture (rebellion) of Ralph earl of Norfolk, and Alan, the earl, had half of it for his part.

This lordship also extended into Tilney. John, son of Wygenhale, John Hackbech, and their tenants, held three parts of a fee here, in Tilney and Wiggenhall, of the honour of Richmond, in Henry III.'s reign; and in that of king Edward III. Thomas Fitz-George, John de Wigenhale, the abbot of Dereham,

Dereham, and the prior of Westacre, held the fourth part of a fee in the aforesaid towns and South Lynn, of Ralph Neville. John duke of Bedford died seized of it *in capite*, in the 14th of Henry VI. held by George lord Latimer, as part of Richmond honour,

ABBOT OF BURY'S, and BROUGHTON'S MANOR. The abbot of Bury, or St. Edmund, had a lordship here before the reign of the Confessor.

Sampson, abbot of Bury, on the foundation of the hospital of St. Saviour's, without the town of Bury, in the reign of Henry II. gave to that hospital two parts of the tithes of his lordship here and in Tilney; and in the 9th of Edward I. John, abbot of Bury, demised to William de Saham, clerk, for life, one messuage, with the demesne lands, meadow and pasture, a windmill, suit of the abbot's tenants to it; saving to the abbot, the homages, rents, services, of his free men and villians, paying 20l. sterling.—Witnesses, sir Ralph de Alneto, sir William de Walpole, sir Robert de Northwold, sir William de Terrington, sir Philip de Fenne, sir Ralph de Wirham, sir Adam de Talbot, knights, Robert Russell, William de Bradenham, James de Fenne, Alexander de Walpole, &c.—And in the register of the Sacrist it is observed, that the monks had no deeds, or memorandum, of the time or person who gave this lordship.

In the 17th of Edward IV. John Broughton, esq. and Ann his wife, conveyed in trust to Thomas bishop of Lincoln, John bishop of Rochester, and Horwode, clerk of the privy-seal, this lordship here and in Tilney, with the ferry between Old and New Lynn, and the said Anne died seized of it anno 20, then a widow; and in the 5th of Henry VII. John Broughton died seized, held of the abbot of Bury.

On the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul, anno 21st of Henry VIII. John, son of John Broughton, esq. dying a minor, Catherine and Ann, his sisters, had livery of it, with Saxlingham manor in Norfolk.

Ann, their mother, remarried fir John Russell; and Thomas Strange, esq. by the marriage of Ann, one of the sisters, had a moiety of it.

In the 30th of Henry VIII. Sir Walter Hobart demised it to Humphry Carvile, gent. for ten years, paying 16l. per ann. and John Hobart had an interest in it, anno 32d of Elizabeth. After this it was in the Thurstons, and John Thurston, esq. of Hoxne in Suffolk, conveyed it to fir Richard Brown, bart. who died seised of it, and in that family it remains, 1778.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, has a nave, a cross isle and a chancel covered with reed; the tower is four-square, and stands at the south part of the church, and thro' it is a passage into the church, and there are two bells.

It was anciently a rectory valued at eighteen marks. It was appropriated to the priory of Blackburgh, on a grant of the lord Scales, in the 22d or 24th of Edward III.

In a window was the pourtraiture of Roger lord Scales, on his knees, in compleat armour, with a scroll in his right hand, thereon—*Jesu Fili Dei miserere*. — — with his arms; gules, six escallops, argent, impaling, ermine, a cross ingrailed, gules, the arms of his lady Joan, daughter of fir Robert Norwood, with Scales's crest, a plume of ostrich's feathers argent, issuing out of a coronet, or. Also the
arms

arms of Ufford, earl of Suffolk, fable, a cross ingrailed, or.

The Rev. John Daville was presented to the vicarage of Illington, by the king, in the year 1775.

LYNN, NORTH. Of this parish very little is known with certainty, excepting that the family of the Guybons, an antient family, had a considerable estate here.

Thomas Guybon, esq. was living in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and married Eleanor, daughter of Richard Colville, of Newton in the Isle of Ely.

Humphry Guybon was the last of the family in North Lynn: he married the daughter of sir Philip Wodehouse.

The present proprietor of North and West Lynn is Thomas Pownall, esq. formerly governor of Massachusetts Bay, in which government he presided many years with great reputation.

The church has for many years past been destroyed by the waters, and the rector preaches annually a sermon upon the sands.

The present rector is the Rev. Philip Pyle, who was presented in 1756, the youngest son of that very learned divine the Rev. Thomas Pyle, who was for many years minister of St. Margaret's church, and was a celebrated preacher: he was also distinguished by his writings, and was in great esteem with the most learned men of his time. He was one of the prebendaries residentiary of the cathedral church of Salisbury.

LYNN,

LYNN, WEST, It has been an idle tradition, that this was, in ancient days, the grand port, or chief town: and on that account is frequently called Old Lynn. I have observed, that in the book of Doomſday, Lena was the name of what is now called the burgh of Lynn, of South Lynn, and of West and North Lynn; and that the chief port was then at the burgh, is certain, from the cuſtoms and laſt-
age of that port, which then belonged to the biſhop of Ely, and the lord of Riſing, and which continued ſo for many centuries, and ſtill belong to the ſaid burgh; this place was only an hamlet belonging to the ſaid burgh.

In a pleading, anno 41ſt of Henry III. it occurs by the name of Weſt Lenne; and in the year 1300, Alan de Lindeſey, burgeſſ of Lena, gave by deed to William de Gouſele, farrier, of Lenn, the liberty of a paſſage or ferry-boat, over the water of Lenn, which he had bought of Alan, ſon of John Codling of Weſt Lenn, to the ſaid William and his heirs, &c. paying to the capital lord of the liberty, the ſervice of right due and cuſtomary, for which the ſaid William gave to him a certain ſum of ſilver in hand, paid. Wiſneſſes, John de Merlowe, then mayor, Peter de Thundreyn, John de St. Omer, &c. burgeſſes, dated at Lynn, anno 1300.

This John de Merlowe was firſt mayor in 1295; then occurs mayor again in 1299, and in the ſucceeding year 1300. In thoſe early ages it was no uncommon thing for a mayor to continue in his office two years running, and ſometimes three years. In the reign of Edward II. Lambert de St. Homero, was mayor in the years 1312, 1313, 1314.

The ferry-boat and passage over the water is still private property, and not in the corporation. We believe it belongs at present to the Rev. Mr. William Young, in right of his wife.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter. It is covered with lead, the chancel with reed, and has a square tower with three bells.

The Rev. William Everard is the present rector, 1778.

TERRINGTON. This town though very considerable in its bounds and lands, is not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, and the reason is, that there was at that time no independent manor or lordſhip, with its lands here, held of the king; all the lands herein belonged to, and depended on ſome neighbouring lordſhips and towns, where they had their ſcite, and extended themſelves into this; and were under thoſe lordſhips and towns, valued and extended and accounted for.

The ſubject and deſign of that moſt valuable record, the book of Doomſday, being to ſet forth and aſcertain thoſe lands only which were held *in capite*, and that in the proper place, where the heads of ſuch fees and tenures lay, and immediately appertained and belonged. Many indeed have maintained, that if a town was not to be found in that book it was not at that time in being; not conſidering and reflecting rightly on the true ſubject and deſign of that book: this led Camden, and after him others, to aſſert Roſton, in Hertfordſhire, not to have a being in the time of the Conqueror, the caſe being the ſame with that town as with this of Terrington.

BARDOLPH'S FEE. Hermerus de Ferrariis, who held a manor in Tilney and Illington in the Conqueror's time, was also lord of part of this town, into which the said manor extended: this came after to the lords Bardolphins, and was a member of the honor or barony of Wormegay; part of this was held by the antient family of Terrington, who assumed their name from this town.

HOWARD'S MANOR. William Howard purchased lands here, in Walpole and Tilney, in the 20th of Edward I. of John de Hoyland and Sibill his wife.

In the 3d of Richard II. a fine was levied of the manor of Howards, in Terrington, with that of Wiggshall, &c. between William Ufford, earl of Suffolk, sir John Lovell, sir John Tudenham, knts. &c. feoffees, querents, and sir Robert Howard and Margaret his wife, deforciant: and in the 3d of Henry IV. sir John Howard was lord, which sir John, on his death in 1437, left to Henry Howard, his second son, by the lady Alice, daughter of sir William Tendring, his second wife, the manor of manor of Terrington Howard's, and East Walton, &c. whose daughter and sole heir, Elizabeth, brought it by marriage to Henry, second son of Roger Wentworth, esq. of Nettlestead in Suffolk, (who died seized of it in the 22d of Edward IV.) by whom he had Roger Wentworth, of Coddendam, Suffolk, knight, who died in the 33d of Henry VIII. and by Ann his wife, daughter and heir of Humphry Tyrrell, of Warley in Essex. (second son of sir Thomas Tyrrell, of Heron in Essex) had sir John Wentworth, of Coddendam and Gosfield, who had livery of this manor in the 31st of Henry VIII. and dying September 3, 1567, was buried at Gosfield in Essex, leaving by Ann his wife, daughter of ——— Bettenham, of Pluckley

Pluckley in Kent, esq. two daughters and coheirs, Mary, married to Thomas lord Wentworth, who died without issue, and Ann, married first to sir Hugh Rich, son and heir to Richard lord Rich, afterwards to Henry lord Matrevers, son and heir to Henry Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel.

By an inquisition taken, *post mortem*, Jan. 14, in the 7th of Charles I. at Ipswich, it was found that sir Edward Villiers, knt. died seized of the manor of Terrington Howard's, Overhall, and Netherhall in Poffingsford; the manors of Impeys and Bully-hall, &c. in Suffolk; and that by Barbara his wife, daughter of sir John St. John, he had a son and heir, William Villiers, aged 20, in 1625: the will of sir Edward bears date August 3, 1625, but he died February 2, 1626.

After this it came to the Hovells, and so to the Folkes's, and sir Martin Folkes, bart. of Hillington, is the present lord of Terrington Howard's.

DUNTON'S alias MARSHALL'S MANOR, and MONK'S. Hugh de Duntone was lord in Hen. III.'s time.

GODDARD'S MANOR. In 1233, Thomas, son of Goddard, held the third part of a fee in Middleton, of the lord Bardolph, and lands here.

Robert Goddard, esq. was living in the 12th of Henry VI. son and heir of Walter, and held a lordship here and in Walpole, of Joan abbess of Elnestow, in Bedfordshire, and was buried in Terrington church in 1448.

After this, William Goddard, esq. a judge of the King's Bench, had an interest herein, and Catherine
his

his wife, who died in 1464; and in the 12th of Edward IV. John Well, of Wisbeach, and Agnes his wife, daughter and heir of John Goddard, conveyed lands to Henry Balding, esq. and Gregory Guybon, of West Lynn, esq.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. This was the principal manor of this town, and belonged to the bishop's great lordships of West Walton, Wisbeach, &c. which extended into this town.

In the 31st of Henry III. a fine was levied between Hugh bishop of Ely, patent, and John son of Wace, deforciant of customs and services, which the bishop demanded for the free tenement, held of the bishop, in Terrington, with forty-five acres, for which he was to pay 20s. sterling yearly, granted to him by the bishop, on the payment of 15s. 4d. per ann. saving to the bishop the general aid, when it was to be levied through the bishoprick, upon his freemen, by the king's precept.

In the 5th of that king there was an extent made of this manor, as appears from the register of the bishop of Ely, in the Cottonian Library, now in the Museum: the jury present it to be in the liberty of that bishop in Marshland, that his bailiff might hold pleas of all that the sheriffs might, with writ and without, assise of bread and beer, and amercements of his tenants, wreck at sea, the patronage of the church of Terrington, and of the chapel of St. John's, towards the marsh, with all the tithes, except two part of the tithe of the land of William, son of William here; and the fee of sir William Bardolph, called Knight's Land: the demeans of the manor consisted of four hundred and ninety-seven acres, one rood and an half, by the
the

the lesser hundred, and the perch of seven feet, which might be plowed with six oxen, and six Scots to harrow, and carry the corn and dung; the meadows were two hundred and sixty-nine acres and half a rood, fresh pasture forty-six acres, three roods and a half, salt pasture one thousand two hundred and ten acres, all held by feveralty.

The towns of Terrington, Tilney, Walpole, Walton, and the Soke of Walsoken, were to common and dig turfs, &c. in the marsh called West Fen, but none could sell, or give any turfs away without leave of all the lords, having common within the boundary thereof, being three miles long and two and a half broad.

It remained in the see of Ely till the death of Dr. Cox, in 1581, when it came to the crown by an act of parliament made in the 4th of Elizabeth, which empowered her to grant and convey the impropriate tithes, glebe lands, &c. of rectories lodged in the crown on the dissolution of religious houses, to several episcopal sees; and for her to take into the right of the crown, on the vacancy of any see, any part of the honors, castles, manors, lands, &c. of the said sees, as should amount to the yearly value of such rectories impropriate, to be settled on them for ever; and thus this goodly manor, with many other belonging to the see of Ely, came to the crown, on the death of bishop Cox aforesaid.

King James I. granted this manor, with all its appurtenances, to his eldest son Henry, and after to Charles prince of Wales.

After this, it was assigned to queen Catherine, consort of king Charles II. as part of her dowry,
Z and

and was farmed by sir James Chapham Fuller, bart. and in the year 1696, was granted to William Bentinck, earl of Portland, by king William III.

Count Bentinck, a younger son of this family, who lives in Holland, is lord of it, and of the greatest part of this town.

Count Bentinck was captain of the Niger man of war in the English service during the last war. In the year 1773 and 1774, he raised a very remarkable sea bank upon Terrington salt-marshes, and took in a considerable number of acres by keeping out the sea and spring-tides from overflowing them. This has been a great improvement upon the estate, but it cost captain Bentinck his life, who by exposing himself at all seasons by his close attention to this work, contracted a fen fever, which carried him off about the end of the year 1774. He was a member of the House of Commons till the unexpected dissolution of the parliament in October 1774, when it was said he was solicited to stand candidate for the borough of Lynn. His farms within the old bank, as may be seen in Mr. Armstrong's specimen of his new map for the county of Norfolk, are called after the titles of the family in Holland, "Bentinck farm, Welbeck farm, Roon farm." The counts Bentinck are lords of Roon in Holland.

PRIOR of LEWES'S MANOR. This was part of the said prior's manor of West Walton, and extended into this town.

Walter Terrington, L. L. D. was a celebrated writer and author, and born in this town, as was John Colton, first master of Gonville hall in Cambridge, and preferred to the primacy of Ireland by king Henry IV. archbishop of Armagh in Ireland.

The church of Terrington is dedicated to St. Clement, and is a very beautiful, large, and noble building of freestone, in the form of a cathedral church.

On a pillar here, a compartment of marble, with the arms of Ascham, gules, a fess, or, between three dolphins embowed, argent, impaling Bury, ermine, on a bend, azure, between two cottises, gules, three lys, or; crest, a dolphin embowed.

Near to this place lyeth John Ascham, Esq. born at Boston in Lincolnshire, and Mary his wife, one of the daughters of Sir William Bury, of Grantham in Lincolnshire, knight, and sister to the Lord Chief Baron Bury; he departed, &c. May 3, 1675, she died June 8, 1704,

On a grave-stone in the chancel, with the arms of Upwood, quarterly, in the first and fourth, a chevron, between three heads, erased, sable, quartering, argent, three cocks, gules; Cockain the second and third.

In memory of Samuel Upwood, Esq. who died September 7, 1716, in his 38 year.

Against the north wall of the chancel is a small mural monument for *Dorothy, wife of Mr. John Edwards, daughter of Thorowgood Upwood, Esq. who died Feb. 15, 1721-2, aged 40; with the arms of Edwards; ermine, a lion rampant, guardant, azure, on a canton, an eagle displayed, sable, impaling Upwood.*

Here was also formerly buried in this church, Thomas Dudley, descended from the lord Dudley,

with this epitaph:—*Hic jacet Thom. Sutton, filius Thomæ Sutton, nuper de Milton, filij D'ni Johs. Sutton, D'ni de Dudley.*

Also a grave-stone for Elizabeth Sutton, wife, as we suppose, of the aforefaid Thomas Sutton, esq.—*Hic jacet Eliz. Sutton, filia Roberti Goddard*; with the arms of Sutton, impaling Goddard and Denver quarterly.

On the wood-work of the roof of the nave, is an anchor carved, the insignia of St. Clement, to whom this church is dedicated. Also a plain cross.

The present rector is the Rev. Dr. Brooke, Lady Margaret's professor of divinity in the university of Cambridge, to which professorship this rectory was annexed for ever, in the year 1605, by king James I.

The present vicar is the Rev. Mr. Upwood.

There is a chapel dedicated to St. John, belonging to this church, where the vicar of Terrington is to perform duty and service; and seems to be built in 1423, licence being then granted to John Billing, vicar, to build a chapel in the lordship of the bishop of Ely, at the cross called Peykes-cross, to the honor of God and the Holy Cross; and in 1428, mention is made of a pilgrimage to Terrington St. John's.

It is said to be made parochial and free from the church of St. Clement, by Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, in 1530, but we find no institution to it as a parochial church, and remains at this time a chapel to the said church, for the service of the parishioners, being three miles from the mother church.

It is a regular pile, with a nave, two isles and a chancel covered with lead; a square stone tower with four pinnacles, and four bells standing at the south west corner.

TILNEY. The lord Bardolf's manor of Illington extended here.

LORD BARDOLF'S FEE. It was a part of the honor of Wormegay, the barony of the lords Bardolf; and being a considerable lordship, several persons were enfeoffed therein; from whence sprung up many lordships, held by different parts of fees and tenures here, and the presentation to the church of Tilney belonged formerly to the lords Bardolf's, as capital lords.

CHERVILLE'S MANOR. The family of Cherville, or Kervile, was early enfeoffed of part. In the 10th of Richard I. a fine was levied between Simon, son of Roger de Cherville, petent, and Roger, son of Walter de Cherville, of lands in Tilney.

Sir Frederick de Cherville held two fees in Tilney, Illington, Wiggenhall, and Clenchwarton, (when an aid was granted, on the marriage of king Henry III.'s sister to the emperor of Germany) of the honor of Wormegay; and was found in the 34th of that king to have a gallows in Tilney, and the liberty, or power of trying and hanging offenders.

In the 4th of Edward I. William lord Bardolf, was found to die seised of a manor here, held *in capite*, by the service of paying castle guard to the castle of Norwich, seven shillings per month, and half a mark per ann.

From the Chervilles, it came partly to the Marmunds, and to the Tilneys, probably by some marriage, sir John Tilney having a lordship here in Edward III.'s time, who was son of sir Thomas de Tilney: sir John was siled of Whaplode, in Lincolnshire, and left two daughters and coheirs, Isabel married to Jeffrey Folvile, by whom he had Maud, a daughter and heir, married to sir John Woodford, whose son, sir Robert, of Sproxton in Leicestershire, gave his grandson John, in the 26th of Henry VI. lands here. Alice, another daughter and coheir of sir John Tilney, married Edmund Kervile, of Wiggenhall St. Mary's

WEST DEREHAM ABBEY MANOR. This abbey had considerable possessions in this town.

On the dissolution of this abbey it came to the crown, and was granted July 3, in the 2d of Elizabeth, to Richard Nicholls, of Tilney, with all its appurtenances in Tilney, Terrington, Islington and Clenchiwarton, with the rectory of Rougham in Norfolk, belonging to Westacre priory, and the rectory of Dunton in Norfolk, belonging to the priory of Marmound; and George Nicholls held it in the 27th of that queen.

FENN'S and NOON'S MANOR. In the reign of Henry III. Philip de Fenn, and his tenants, were found to hold the third part of a knight's fee here, and in Wiggenhall, of the lord Bardolf; and the heirs of John Noon held also, with the abbot of Dereham, two fees of the said towns of the same lord.

Sir Edmund Noon occurs lord in the 3d of Hen. IV. and in the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Noon held

held the eighth part of a fee in Tilney, Wiggenhall and Clenchwarton, of Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, lord of the honor of Wormegay.

MARSHALL'S MANOR. William, son of John le Marefchalle, had a lordship held of the honor of Wormegay,

WENDLING ABBOT'S MANOR. In the 24th of Henry III. the abbot held in this town and in Wiggenhall, the eighth part of a fee of the honor of Wormegay.

On the dissolution of the religious houses in the time of Henry VIII. this monastery came to the crown; and on the 30th of August queen Elizabeth, in her 13th year, granted it, with all the lands and tenements, &c. belonging to it, in the towns of Tilney, Illington, Clenchwarton, Walpole, Emmeth and Gayton, to Thomas Jenyns and Edward Forth.

WESTACRE PRIORY. Jeffrey Sutton alienated lands in this town, Terrington, Wiggenhall, &c. to this priory, in the 6th of Edward II.

EARL of CLARE'S FEE. In the fines of lands lying in this town, frequent mention is made of the Tilney family. Robert de Tilney lived in the reign of king Henry III. and Godfrey his son, was found to have a manor here in the 3d of Edward I.

Philip, son of Frederick de Tilney, who lived at Boston in Lincolnshire, esq. was possessed of a manor, or lands here, as appears by his will dated on the feast of St. Ambrose, in the 11th year of king Richard II. and Frederick had fifty acres of land here, conveyed to him by fine, which Nicholas

Blower held for the life of Agnes, widow of John, son of William Noon, of Tilney.

In the 47th of Edward III. and in the 43d of that king, John, son of Jeffrey de Tilney and Agnes, his wife, had lands conveyed to them by fine.

Weaver, in his Funeral Monuments, gives an extract from a book, then in the hands of Thomas Tilney, of Hadleigh in Suffolk, esq. which belonged (as in a note of the said book is said) to sir Frederick Tilney, of Boston in Lincolnshire, who was knighted at Acon in the Holy Land, by king Richard I. in his 3d year; a knight remarkable for his great stature, and strength of body; and was buried with his ancestors in the church of Terrington, by Tilney, whose height was to be seen there at that time, viz. 1556.

After him sixteen knights succeeded, (of the name of Tilney) and in the estate; who all lived at Boston, till it came to Thomas duke of Norfolk, by the marriage of a daughter and heiress of an elder brother.

The last of this knightly family, was then sir Phil. Tilney, of Shelleigh in Suffolk, father of Thomas Tilney, of Hadleigh.

The book here mentioned, in 1727 was in the hands of Peter Le Neve, Norroy, but the note abovementioned, appears by the hand to be written long after the siege of Acon, and about the reign of king Henry VIII. or Edward VI. and there was no such succession of knights as here mentioned.

PRIOR of LEWES'S MANOR, or KENWICK'S, was part of the capital lordship of that prior in West Walton, and granted by the name of Kenwick in Tilney, in the reign of king Richard I. with the consent of the abbot of Clugny, of Burgundy in France, (to which abbey Lewes was a cell) to Alan, son of Robert de Snettham, alias de Inglethorpe, in fee-farm, at twenty marks per ann. most of the demesne lands belonging to it being exempted from tithe.

Thomas de Ingaldesthorpe was lord in the 8th of king John, and in the 3d of Edward I. John de Ingaldesthorpe was found to hold a knight's fee in this town.

This town gives name to a famous common, called Tilney Smeeth, whereon thirty thousand, or more, large Marshland sheep, and the great cattle of seven towns, to which it belongs, are constantly said to feed; about one mile in breadth, and three in length, viz. Tilney, Terrington, Clenchwarton, Iffington, Walpole, West Walton, Walsoken and Emneth: a piece of land so fruitful, (as was reported by a courtier to king James I. at his first coming to the crown) "that if over night a wand, or rod, was laid on the ground, by the morning it would be covered with grass of that night's growth, so as not to be discerned;" to which that king is said, in a jocular manner, to reply, "that he knew some grounds in Scotland, where if an horse was put in over night, they could not see him, or discern him in the morning." Of this plain or smeeth, there is a tradition, which the common people retain, that in old time, the inhabitants of these towns had a contest with the lords of the manors, about the bounds and limits of it; when one Hickifric, a person of great stature and courage, assisting the
said

said inhabitants in their rights of common, took an axel-tree from a cart wheel, instead of a sword, and the wheel for a shield, or buckler, and thus armed soon repelled the invaders; and for proof of this notable exploit, they to this day shew, says sir William Dugdale, a large grave-stone, near the east end of the chancel, in Tilney church-yard, whereon the form of a cross is so cut, or carved, as that the upper part thereof, wherewith the carver hath adorned it, being circular, they will therefore needs have it to be the grave-stone of Hickifric, and to be as a memorial of his gallantry,

The stone coffin which stands out of the ground in Tilney church-yard, on the north side of the church, will not receive a person above six feet in length, and this is shewn as belonging formerly to the giant Hickifric; the cross, said to be a representation of the cart-wheel, is a cross pattee, on the summit of a staff, which staff is stiled an axle-tree; such crosses pattee on the head of a staff, were emblems, or tokens, that some knight templar was therein interred, and many such are to be seen at this day in old churches.

Til, is the name of a river in Northumberland, and many towns take their names from Til; as Tilbrook in Bedfordshire, Tilford in Surry, Tilbury in Essex, &c. *

The church of Tilney is dedicated to All Saints, and is a large building, consisting of a nave, north and south isle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the west end stands a square tower, with pinnacles; on the tower, a spire of freestone.

The

The church and town stands at the distance of four miles from Lynn Regis over the channel into Marshland.

The old story of Hickisfric, or Hickathrift, is that he took up a great hammer from a forge at Lynn, and threw it across the river into Tilney church-yard, saying, "wherever it fell he would be buried."

In the 20th of Edward III. a fine was levied between Mary de St. Paul, countess of Pembroke, and John lord Bardolf, of the patronage of this rectory, and an acre of land, viz. the church-yard held *in capite*, and conveyed then to the countess for forty-eight marks, the fine being levied by a special precept. The family of Bardolf is, by all accounts that we have seen, said to have purchased it of sir Frederick de Cherville in the reign of Henry III. but as the Chervilles manor in this town was held of the lords Bardolf, who had the chief fee in it, it is most probable that it was always an appendix to their capital manor.

King Edward III. in his 32d year, granted a patent to appropriate it to Pembroke Hall in Cambridge, by the gift of the foundress, the said countess of Pembroke, and a vicarage settled.

The Rev. Mr. Peele, now upper minister of St. Peter's of Mancroft in the city of Norwich, was presented to this vicarage in 1748, on the death of the reverend and very learned divine Dr. John Whaley, late master of Peterhouse College, in Cambridge, and regius professor of divinity in that university.

WALPOLE

WALPOLE takes its name from the great wall, or sea bank raised to defend it, and from a pool, or deep water near to that wall. Of this great parish, only this account is to be found in the grand survey, or book of Doomsday.

John nephew of Waleran, held lands in Walpole. Waleran was some officer of the Conqueror, and earl of Millant in Normandy.

EARL OF CLARE'S MANOR. How long it continued in this John's possession does not appear; probably on his death it was granted to the Giffard's family, earls of Bucks, who had considerable possessions in this tract and neighbourhood; and by the marriage of a daughter and heiress of Giffard, the second earl, was brought into the family of the earls of Clare.

In the 47th of Henry III. Richard de Clare, earl of Clare, was found, as appears from the escheat rolls, to have held lands in Walpole, by knight's service.

In the 52d of that king, Hamon Moynstrail had a manor here, which we suppose to be this; and then gave licence of distress for rent due to the priores of Carrowe, for lands in Heacham; and in the 7th of Edward I. Adam Mustroil settled lands here, and in Hunstanton, on Hamon his son, by fine.

In the 21st year of king Edward I. John Lovell and his tenants held this manor by the third part of a fee, of the earl of Gloucester; and in the 1st of Edward II. John Lovell of Titchmarsh, settled it with that of Hunstanton, on William Lovell, and the heirs of his body, by fine then levied: the
said

said William was found in the 8th of that king to be seised of it, held of the honor of Clare.

It appears in the 20th of Edward III. from the inquisitions, that William Lovell and his tenants, held in Walpole the third part of a fee of the earl of Gloucester, which John Lovell formerly held, and had a charter for free-warren in all his demean lands here, and in Hunstanton; and in the 22d of Richard II. Roger Mortimer, earl of March, was found to hold *in capite*, one fee in this town, Hunstanton and Walton, held by William Lovell, as parcel of the honor of Clare; and John Lovell held the third part of a fee of the earl of March, in Walpole, and was under age; and the king's ward in the 3d of Henry IV.

Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, was found to hold one fee in Walpole, Hunstanton and Walton, held by William Lovell in the 3d of Henry VI. and in the 13th of Edward IV. the jury present that Robert Fitz-Symon, held the day he died the manors of Hunstanton and Walpole, Mocking in Essex, Lillingston, Lovell in Oxfordshire, the moiety of the manor of Archeater in Northamptonshire, and that Joan, the wife of Robert Timperley, was his daughter and heir, then twenty-two years old.

John Pell was lord of Lovell's manor, with messuages, lands and tenements, in the 13th and in the 42d of Elizabeth.

John Richards, alias Glover, and Joan his wife, had a præcipe to deliver to John Moore, the manor of Lovells, in this town and Terrington, &c.

By

By an inquisition taken at Norwich, October 1, in the 5th year of king Charles I. after the death of Henry Reppes, esq. who died the 23d of March, 1628, it was found that he died possessed of this manor of Lovells, held of the king, of his honour of Clare, by knight's service; and is called a decayed and reputed manor.

Valentine Upwood, esq. lord, and Samuel Upwood in 1716.

Besides this little lordship, there were two very considerable ones in this township of Walpole, one belonging to the church of Ely, another to the earl Warren, at the time when Doomsday-book was made; and yet no account occurs, or is to be found in Doomsday-book of these, or any mention made of Walpole, (excepting the account of John, nephew of Walcran's manor before observed) and the reason is, that the manor of the aforesaid John, was the only independent manor, held *in capite* of the king, in this town, and had its scite herein: whereas the lordships of the church of Ely, and the earl Warren, though held also *in capite*, were dependent manors on the church of Ely's capital manor of West Walton and Wisbech, and the earl Warren's capital manor, in the said town of Walton, which had their scites there, and extended into Walpole, Terrington, &c. and so were valued and accounted for under the capital manor of West Walton, &c. where no doubt all duties and services of those who held lands in Walpole, and Terrington, of the aforesaid bishop and earl, were constantly performed and due.

ELY MANOR. Oswi, a noble Saxon, and Leofleda his wife, father and mother of Alwyn, gave on the admission of their son Alwyn into the monastery of Ely,

Ely, (where he became a monk, and was after bishop of Elnham, in Norfolk, in 1021) the manors of Walpole, with those of Wisbech, Walsoken, West Walton, and Terrington, in Norfolk.

MARSHE'S, OR COLVILLE'S MANOR: In the reign of king Richard II. sir William Marsh had lands here, and gave his name to the manor. Afterwards it came to sir John Colville, and then took a second name. In the reign of Henry VIII. sir John Colville held it of the bishop of Ely.

WALPOLE'S MANOR. The truly ancient family of the Walpoles, of Houghton in Norfolk, earls of Orford, were many ages past enfeoffed in lands, and a lordship in this town, from which, according to the Norman custom, they assumed their Name. Of this family was Jeffrey de Walpole) son of Reginald, as appears by deed *sans date*.

Amongst the names of those knights who owed service to the bishop of Ely, as appears from an exchequer-book, Jocelinus de Walpole is named to hold half a fee in Walpole, Walton and Hackbech; and among the free tenants of the said bishop, Adam de Walpole is said to hold half a virgate, and a piece of pasture, paying one mark per ann. and Jocelinus de Walpole half a virgate; Osbert de Stradssett the fourth part of a virgate, John Norman, William de Schuldham, Alan son of Algar, Ralph son of Joceline, and Roger his brother, Andrew de Terrington, and William de Camera, &c.

Ralph son of Joceline, appears to have three sons, Thomas, Alan, and Richard de Walpole, from a pleading in the 34th of Henry III. when Peter and William de Walpole were sons of Thomas de Walpole.

pole. And before this, in the 12th of the said king, a fine was levied between Claricia, daughter of Alan de Walpole, Thomas de Cheyle and Christian his wife, Robert Chamberlain and Mariona his wife, petents, and Henry de Walpole, tenant, of forty acres of land in this town, granted to Henry; and in the 19th of the said reign, Richard de Walpole was petent in a fine, and Walter son of Alan, and Catherine his wife, tenant of lands here. A son of Joceline was benefactor to the priory of Lewes.

About this time lived sir Henry de Walpole, knt. who by deed *sans* date, granted to Thomas de Spalding, burgess of Lynn, for his homage and service, and for twenty marks sterling, certain lands in Terrington, to be held of him and his heirs, paying to the lords of the fee the accustomed services and dues, viz. sixpence (*de censu*) at the feast of St. Michael, and to him and his heirs one clove at the feast of St. John Baptist. Witnesses to this deed, *sans* date, are sir William de Terrington, sir John de Wygenhale, knights; Hugh de Dunstone, Nicholas de Hecham, Walter Marechal, William de Mundeford, Nicholas de Burgh. John de Baufey, clerk, &c.

To this is affixed his seal,—a fess between two chevrons; which arms are borne at this day by the earl of Orford; of the same family was Ralph de Walpole, who was bishop of Ely in the reign of Edward I. and bore the same arms.

Before this, it is said that the family removed from Walpole to Houghton in Norfolk, on the marriage of Richard, son of Reginald de Walpole, with Emme, daughter of Walter, son of William
de

de Havelton or Houghton; but they still continued to have an interest and a manor here. For in the 5th of Edward II. Henry de Walpole, (and Alice his wife) appears to be lord both of Houghton and Walpole, by a fine then levied.

In the 3d of that king lands in Tilney and Wiggenhall were settled on John son of Alexander de Walpole, by Alexander his father; and in the 6th of the said reign Bartholomew de Walpole, son of John de Walpole, and Catherine his wife, held lands in Walpole.

Henry, son of Henry de Walpole, by his will, dated 1442, orders his trustees of this manor, to enfeoff Henry his son, in tail, in the same; and Thomas Walpole, gent. son of John Walpole, esq. by his deed, dated March 30, in the 12th of Henry VII. granted to Thomas Aleyn of Walpole, a messuage, lands, and a salt-work with the grains, &c. in this town.

John Walpole, of Houghton, esq. by his will, dated February 28, in the 30th of Elizabeth, and proved in April following, bequeaths to Catherine his wife all his lands in Walpole and Walton, to her and her heirs, towards the preferment of the marriage of his daughters.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. The ancient family of de Rochford had also a manor in this town, held as it seems of the see of Ely.

This manor continued in the family of the Rochfords under many sovereigns, till in the reign of Henry IV. sir Henry Rochford conveyed it to the vicar of Walpole.

The Rochfords took their name from a village in Essex they possessed soon after the Conquest, and from which the present earl of Rochford probably derives his title.

The Rochfords were such a numerous family, and of so many branches, that it is not easy to distinguish, or make a regular descent of them, and we find that they varied on this account their arms: some bore quarterly, or, and gules, in a bordure sable, bezanty; others the same quarterly, in a bordure indented, uncharged: we find also an annulet bore in the first quarter, also a de lys, bore by some. The crest of the Rochfords was a man's head, with a prolix beard, thereon an high almain cap, on a wreath, mantelled ermin.

In the 5th of Henry VI. sir William Mallory and Margaret his wife, conveyed messuages and lands to sir Ralph Rochford, and Richard Leak, esq. in North and South Stoke in Lincolnshire; and in the said year he surrendered his right in the manor of Wychampton in Dorsetshire, to sir Gilbert Kyghley. He was living at Walpole in 1446, and died before 1455. In the ledger-book of Boston, Margaret, late the wife of sir Ralph Rochford, is said to die in that year.

In the east window of the north isle of St. Peter's church of Walpole, is to be seen the effigies of this knight in armour, and that of his lady, on their knees; on his surtout are the arms of Rochford, quarterly, or, and gules, in the second quarter an annulet sable, in a bordure of the same, bezanty.

Ralph Rochford, esq. son and heir of Henry, was by some called a knight. Thomas Rochford, esq.

esq. his brother, by his will dated January 30, 1438, and proved February 25 following, requires to be buried in the chapel of St. Mary, in the church of St. Peter of Walpole; names Margaret his wife executrix, to whom he gives his lands in Ringstead and Holme, to pay his debts, and if she should be with child, the issue to have them, and she her dower in his lands at Walpole.

In the 33d of Henry VI. in a deed of this Ralph, of lands in Castle-Rising, dated September 26, at Walpole, he styles himself Ralph Rochford, late esquire, now clerk, (*nup. Armiger modo Clericus*) by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of sir Marmaduke Constable, he had three sons; Henry, the eldest, Ralph, of Langholm, and Saier, of Barton.

Henry had a lordship in Boston, called Fenn's, and that of Rochford in Shirbeck; and in the 7th of Henry VII. sir Henry Rochford, knt. was one of the justices of the peace, and of the gaol delivery, within the bishop of Ely's liberty in Norfolk.

After this we find nothing more of the Rochfords; as the bishop of Ely was the capital lord, and their estate was held of him, it was vested in that see, and so continued till granted by an act of parliament, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, to the crown, on an exchange of lands with the bishop.

DENVER'S MANOR, or GODDARD'S, had its rise from a division of that lordship, which Henry de Walpole, son of Osbert de Walpole held, who dying without issue, his two aunts, Isabel and Alice, sisters to Osbert, were heirs to it.

From the Walpoles it came to the Denvers; from them to the Goddards, and from the Goddards to the Hunstons.

Henry Hunston, of Walpole, esq. was living in the reign of Henry VIII. and married Jane, daughter of sir John Audley, of Swaffham, knt.

Thomas Hunston, esq. sold it to John Hare, esq. son of John Hare, citizen and mercer, of London; with several messuages, lands, &c. that came to the Hunstons from the Goddards, Walpoles, and Rochfords, called in the conveyance the manors of Denvers and Walpoles; and Henry Hare, lord Colraine, his direct heir, died possessed of it in 1749, and on his death descending to an alien, was in the king's hands.

It is now in the possession of James Townsend, esq. by grant of the king. James Townsend served the office of lord mayor, and is an alderman of the city of London 1778.

PRIOR of LEWES'S MANOR was a part, or member of the prior's capital manor in West Walton, given by William the first earl Warren.

Henry Hare, lord Colraine, died possessed of it in 1749; on his death it came as an escheat to the crown. It is now in the possession of James Townsend, esq. alderman of London, who married the heiress of lord Colraine.

PANNEL'S MANOR. The Welbys of Lincolnshire had a considerable interest in this town: Joan Welby, widow, of Moulton, possessed it, and on her son Richard Welby's marriage with Elizabeth, daughter

daughter of sir William Calthorpe, of Ludham in Norfolk, settled it on them September 10, in the 8th of Edward IV. Christopher Langholme, esq. on the death of his brother, had livery of it in the 29th of Henry VIII. held, as is said, of the prior of Lewes: in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, Christ. Langholme conveyed it to Richard Goodrick; and Thomas Hewar had præcipe, in the 3d of Elizabeth, to deliver it to Andrew Ogard.

After this it came to the Coneys. John Coney lived here in the reign of Henry VIII. and Thomas Coney, esq. of Sutton in Lincolnshire, was father of William Coney, esq. of Walpole, who bore fable, a fess between two cottises, or, and three coneys sejant, argent: the crest, a talbot's head coupéd, issuing out of a mural coronet, or,

This William was a justice of the peace, and by Abigail his wife, daughter of ——— Tilson, of Gedney, had a son Robert, who married Alice, daughter of sir Robert Barkham, knt. of Waynfleet in Lincolnshire, and was father of Robert, a minor in 1664, who dying *sans* issue, William Coney, esq. his brother was his heir, and by Edith daughter of sir Humphey Edwin, lord mayor of London in 1697, was father of Edwin Coney, esq. high sheriff of Norfolk in 1734, whose son, Robert Coney, esq. formerly a captain of the army, and lieutenant colonel in the Norfolk militia while on service in the late war, and one of the commissioners of appeals, is the present lord.

St. Peter's church is one of most beautiful parish churches in England, built of freestone, consisting of a nave, two isles and a chancel, all covered with

lead. At the west end stands a noble, stately tower of stone, embattled.

On the stone work of the south porch, as you enter, are the arms of Goddard, and Denver, quarterly, with Goddard's crest, an eagle's head erect; and on the stone-work towards the east end, near the great arch, the arms of Rochford. These families were the chief benefactors to the building of the church, which was about the beginning of the reign of king Henry VI. In the year 1425 we find the windows to be glazed and set up.

At the east end of this south isle lie several marble grave-stones.

Hic jacet Robertus Coney, Armiger, de Walpole, in comit. Norf. qui ex uxore Alicia, filia Rob. Barkham de Wainfleet, in comit. Lincoln. Equitis auratj; 8 filios et 6 filias suscepit, Norfolciam, A°. 1673. Vicecomes tuebatur, vir in patriam devotus, in Deum devotissimus, in regem fidelis, in suos liberalis, in alios benevolus, in probos suavis, in malos severus, in omnes humanus; obt. 5. Apr. 1707, ætat. 72.

On the summit are the arms of Coney, sable, a fess between two cottises, or, and three coneyes sejant, argent, impaling Barkham, argent, three pallets, gules, and a chevron over all, or.

Another—*In memory of Robert Cony, son of Robert Cony, Esq. and Alice his wife, &c. who died Nov. 8, 1683, aged 21.*

One—*In memory of Alice, wife of Robert Cony, Esq. who died Oct. 3, 1676, ætat. 41.*

Also one—*In memory of William Cony, Esq. son of Robert Cony, Esq. and Alice his wife, &c. who died Jan. 6, 1742, aged 82: who married Edith, daughter of Sir Humphrey Edwin, Kt. of the city of London:* With the arms of Coney, impaling ———, a cross flory engrailed between four birds.

On the windows of the north isle are the arms of Goddard, Denver, Howard, of the East Angles, and the see of Ely, the triangular emblem of the Trinity, St. George's arms, and argent, a saltier, vert, Noon. Also argent, a chevron between three wolves heads erased, gules, Lovell. Here were also, argent, a chevron, between three griffins heads erased, gules, Tilney, Rochford and Goddard, impaling Denvers.

The east end of this isle is taken in by a screen, and was the chapel and burial place of the Rochfords. On the pavement lies a large marble gravestone, whereon has been a long great cross of brass, standing on a pedestal of four steps, with a cross on the head of it, and six shields, three on each side, all reaved, as is the inscription, which was on a rim of brass round it, of which this only remains:

*Hic jacet Willm. filius — — — — constabularij
castri de Wisbeache — — Januarij A^o. Dni. Mil^o.*

This is said to be in memory of William, only son of sir John Rochford, who left three daughters and coheirs.

South of this stands a large altar monument, ornamented with curious brass work, and the effigies of a knight in armour, a lion at his feet; with that of his lady, and a dog at her feet; over his head

are two shields, with Rochford's arms and a fleur de lys, in the first and fourth quarter; the two shields over the lady are gone, and so is the rim of brass that went round it, with its inscription, this only remaining:

— — — — — Domina
Matilda, uxor ej. que obiit — — — Anno Dni.
Millesimo, tricesimo, sexagesimo nono.

Weaver says this is the monument of sir Ralph Rochford, knt. This sir Ralph, as we have before observed, was son of sir Saier de Rochford, and married Matilda, daughter and coheir, as is said, of a Walpole.

The east window of this chapel is beautified with the effigies of many saints, &c. at the bottom of the pannels are the portraiture of a man in armour on his knees; on his surcoat, argent, a bend ingrailed, azure, and a chief gules: this we take to be for Ralph lord Cromwell, lord Tatehale, governor of Rising castle in the time of Henry VI. and that of his wife, who appears by her arms, on her vest or inward garment, to be a Rochford, quarterly, or, and gules, &c. and on her outward garment, the arms of Cromwell. Also the portraiture of a Rochford in armour, with the shield of Rochford, and an annulet sable, in the second quarter; and his lady with the arms of Goddard, on her inward vest, with an annulet, azure, on the breast of the eagle. Another portraiture of a Rochford, and a lady with the arms of Rochford on her outward vest, and of Cromwell (though obscure) on her inward vest.

On a brass plate,—*Si quæris advena, suas hic deposuit reliquias Barnabas Frenchamus, juvenis ultra annos pius,*

pius, supra vires sedulus, cujus in interitu, duplex hoc potuit malum, herede patrem orbare et conjuge. Proh flebile satum consumptio rapuit filium et tristitia conjugem, Tam chari pignoris damnum, non prius deflere de stitit luctuosa parens, quam eundem cum filio tumultum habuēt, et in cælo, solium, audiit Deus, et dedit; obiit filius Augusti 25°. mater Novemb. 15, A°. 1652, A°. Æt. 87.

On a marble grave-stone—argent, three lozenges, azure, each charged with an escalop, or; crest a stag's head erased, with a branch in his mouth,—*Hart.*

H. S. E. Gulielmus Hart, clericus, rector et vicarius de Walpole, dignissimus, rectoris munus, per unum et quinquaginta, vicarij per duos et quadraginta annos fideliter executus est, officio satisfecit; Theologus ad primævæ religionis norman fide, moribusq; incorruptissimus, ingenij, facundiæ, pietatis laude florentissimus, variæq; eruditionis elegantia, ornatissimus vir. Vitæ ad amussin dispositu atq; ordinatæ sanctitas, summa comitas, par ab omnibus diligebatur, colebatur, probissimus, gravissimus, venerabilis senex. Amicitia ejus nihil fidelius, sermonibus nihil jucundius, nihil doctius, perpetua mentis, corporisq; sanitate et vigore usus est, et in ipso sere ætatis flore tantum non octogenarius decessit. In altissima tranquillitate, pariq; veneratione ad mortalitatis finem pervenit mensis Maij die 2d°. A. D. 1726, ætat. suæ LXXIX—Juxta jacent Alicia Hart, Gulielmi et Susannæ filia, quæ decem annos nata, animam Deo reddidit, et Gulielmus corund. nepos, Gulielmi et Mariæ Hart de Boston. in com. Linc. filius primogenitus ad cælum redi-de maturavit quinq; menses natus, infantulus.

The ascent to the communion table consists of many steps, under it is an arch, which will contain many horses, for the use of those parishoners who
are

are obliged by the badness and length of the ways, to come on horseback to church.

The present rector is the Rev. William Everard, of Lynn, presented by the crown in 1743.

St. Andrew's church is a regular well built pile, consisting of a nave, a north and south isle, a chancel, with a south porch, all covered with lead. At the west end is a square steeple, with four bells.

The sea bank at this town from St. Helen's chapel next Terrington, to Novech gate in West Walton, is three miles in length.

At a place called Cross Keys in this parish, is a passage over the washes, at the mouth of the river Nene, to Long Sutton in Lincolnshire, (when the tide is out, and before its reflux) for horses and carriages, and king John passing over here into Lincolnshire a little time before his death, not observing this, lost most of his baggage, or carriages, by the reflux of the tide.

The passage over the washes from side to side is two miles, but at a proper time of the tide the water to be crossed is of no great breadth; the channel being very narrow.

WALSOKEN. RAMSEY ABBOT'S, or POPENHOW MANOR. The principal manor of this town was given to the abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire, by Ailwin, duke of the East Angles, also styled, Alderman of the East Angles, on his founding of that abbey in 1069, by the name of Five Hides, in Walsoken, and was confirmed to that house by king Edgar. The said abbey held it at the grand survey by

by the name of The Land of St. Bennet of Ramsey; the abbey being dedicated to that great patron of the monastic order.

On the dissolution of this abbey it came to the crown, and was granted by king Henry VIII. February 26, in his 36th year, by the name of Popenhow, alias Walsoken manor, with the advowson of the rectory, to sir Thomas Wrothesley, and sir Richard Southwell, (which sir Richard was one of the king's visitors of the abbeys, priories, &c.) with all the rights and privileges enjoyed by the abbots, and as specified in the 14th of Edward I. by a *Quo Warranto*.

On the 25th of January, in the 24th of Elizabeth, it was conveyed by sir Richard Southwell to Thomas Barrow, esq. of Cranworth in Norfolk.

It was conveyed July 15, 1669, to John Colville, esq. and his son Josiah sold it in 1685 to John Creed, esq. of Oundle in Northamptonshire, in whose family it remains, 1778.

MARSHE'S, OR ELY MANOR. Here was a manor called Marshe's, from the family of De Marisco, who held lands of the see of Ely, and of the abbot of Ramsey.

In the year 1277, the bishop of Ely was the capital lord, had the letc, return of writs, cognizance of all pleas, when it is said that the whole town entered commoners in West Fen, and were to clean their portions of the Podike, five furlongs and sixteen perches. The bishop, and the abbot of Ramsey, had each a moiety of the sea wreck, royal fisheries, &c. with free warren.

In

In the 8th of Henry VI. sir John Colville, of Newton, had an inquisition, *ad quod damnum*, on his settling five messuages, one hundred and ten acres of land, in Newton, Leverington, Wisbech, Elme, and a fishery called Depewear, in Wisbech, on a chauntry in the church of Newton, and died as is said about the 24th of Henry VI. leaving sir John Colville his son and heir, who married Ann, daughter of sir Henry Ingels, of Dilham in Norfolk, and died in the 4th year of king Henry VII. and in the 9th of the said king it appears she was re-married to sir Robert Brandon.

Francis Colville, esq. succeeded his brother sir John, and died seised of this manor in the 9th year, and then a knight, leaving Richard his son and heir, by Catherine, daughter of John Townshend, of Rainham in Norfolk, esq. which Richard, by an inquisition taken at Thetford, November 2, in the 17th of Henry VIII. was found to die September 5 in the said year, seised of this manor, and that of Newton.

John Colville, esq. is said to have been a goldsmith of London, and purchased the manor of Popenhow in this town, and had by Dorothy his wife, daughter of —, bishop of London, Josiah Colville, esq. of Lincoln's-Inn, London, in 1685, then aged 27, died at Wisbech December 25, 1705, and was buried at Newton, leaving Ann his sister and heir. Richard Colville, esq. of Newton in the Isle of Ely, is the present lord.

The church of Walsoken is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave, north and south isle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the west end is a tower, with a spire of free-stone,

Against

Against the wall of the steeple, facing the nave of the church, is the effigies of king Solomon, sitting in a chair, or throne, in royal robes, projecting from the wall, and on each side of him, a large piece of painting, representing the history and judgment of that king, on the two harlots; and at the east end of the nave that of king David, with his harp; and under it the picture of king Charles I.

On the pavement here a grave-stone:—*M. S. Petri Wensley, Generosi, Rob. Wensley, clerici, filii, qui obt. 18^o. Martij, A. D. 1711, æt. 28, hec non Eleonore conjugis, ipsius quæ morti cessit 13. Julij æt 25. Juxta hos inhumatur Rob. Petri frater, ob. Oct. 4, 1733. æt. 49, and this shield, —, four escallops, with their heads meeting in the fess point, —, impaling —, a chevron between three mullets, on a chief, three bucks heads cabosed.*

Near this, one—*In memory of Elizabeth Wensley, widow, and only daughter of Peter Robertson, of Chess-hunt in Hertfordshire, Esq. reliet of Robert Wensley of the said town, clerk, who dyed Sept. 26, 1697, aged 47.*

The font is curiously ornamented with imagery work of many saints, our Saviour's passion, and the seven sacraments of the church of Rome; and round the foot of it

Remember the soul of S. Honyter and Margaret his wife, and John Beforth, chaplain.

A grave-stone—*In memory of Thomas, son of Edw. Southwell, Gent. and Alice his wife, grandson to Rob. Wensley, who died March 11, 1692, aged 25 years.*

One for—*Rob. Wensley of Walsoken, Gent. buried November 3, 1691, aged 77.*

Also for—*Alice wife of Rob. Wensley, Gent. who dyed Nov. 9, 1678, aged 65.*

One for—*Mary, wife of John Gardener, of Wisbeach, Gent. daughter of Rt. Wensley, Gent. died Nov. 4, 1691, aged 40 years.*

Grave-stones also—*In memory of William Edwards, of Walsoken, Gent. who died May 29, 1680, in his 46 year; and for Steph. Edwards, his son, who died Jan. 30, 1709, aged 34.—For Eliz. late wife of William Edwards, Gent. who died May 31, 1701, aged 53.*

Also for—*Thomas Edwards, Gent. who dyed Aug. 13, æt. 73.*

On a mural monument—*Near this place lye interred the bodies of John Herring, M. A. thirty-six years rector of this parish, aged 75, buried June 2, 1717, and of Martha his wife, daughter of Thomas Potts, of the parish of St. Gregory's, London, aged 44, buried Jan 3, 1704.*

This monument is erected in gratefull memory of his excellent parents, by their only son Thomas, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, 1750.

Dr. Thomas Herring, was first archbishop of York, where in the year of the Scotch rebellion, 1745, he greatly distinguished himself for his loyalty and spirit, and was afterwards translated to the see of Canterbury. He was born at Walsoken, in the reign of king William III. 1693; was an amiable prelate throughout life, and died greatly regretted

ted by the clergy in general, and in particular by the clergy of the city of London. His grace was educated at Bennet College in Cambridge, which has given many bishops, nominated from masters of that college, to the see of Norwich. Amongst the rest in the last century Dr. Richard Jagon, who was twelve years master of that college, and who died bishop of Norwich, and was buried at Aylsham in 1617. He was a man of learning, and a man of humour: while master of Bennet he punished the under-graduates for some offence, and with the fine he laid upon them whited the hall of the college, upon which one of the students wrote upon the screens

“ Dr. Jagon, Bennet-college master,
 “ Broke the scholars *heads*, and gave the hall a
 “ *plaster.*”

The doctor on reading it wrote under,

“ Knew I but the wag, who writ these verses in
 “ a bravery,
 “ I would *commend* him for his *wit*, and *whip* him
 “ for his *knavery*.

In this parish was a chapel, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, at the place called the Staith-Ditch, in which was a famous guild, or fraternity, with *custos*, or master.

In 1461, Eborardus was *custos*, as he styles himself, of the chapel and hospital of the Holy Trinity of Walsoken.

Pope Urban VI. Boniface IX. Martin V. Paul II. and Sixtus V. granted to the brothers and sisters of
 this

this fraternity, and to all who were benefactors to it, surprising indulgences, as will appear from what we have here subjoined, taken from a rude and imperfect copy of a deed of admission of two persons into this fraternity, under the seal of the aforesaid Eborard.

“ Universis S'ce matris eccl'ie filijs ad quos p'sen-
 “ tes litter. p'venerint, Eborard. custos capelle et
 “ hospitalis S'ce Trinitatis de Walloken, Norwic.
 “ dioc. et ejusd. loci confratres et conforores salut.
 “ in D'no. se'pitern. voverit universitas vestra vene-
 “ randa qd. piissimus in Xto. pater et Dominus nos-
 “ ter D'nus Urban. divina miseratione Papa Sextus,
 “ de plenitudine sue pietat. nobis indulget qd. eis qui
 “ de facultatib; suis, &c. nobis subvenerit, et in
 “ sanctam societatem nostram statuerunt se collegas,
 “ nobis — — — que beneficia præstiterint,
 “ annuatim septi'am partem pœnitent. — relaxa-
 “ vit tres annos et centum dies venie totiens quoti-
 “ ens hoc fecerunt vel meruerint, concessit ac eciam
 “ plenariam participat. omnium missar. et aliar. ora-
 “ tion. spiritual. que fiunt et de cet. fient in univer-
 “ sati ecclesia. ad quas p'tin. fuerint interdicti. ipsis
 “ qu. mori contigerit nisi excommuni. vel no'iati in-
 “ terdicti aut publici usurarij fuerint ecclesiastica se-
 “ pultura eis non negabitur et curati eor. qui ha-
 “ bent curas a'imar'q; suar. possint eos absolvere ab
 “ omnib; eor. peccat. contritis et confessis, ac etiam
 “ oblitis, nisi forte talia com'iserint p'pr. que sedes
 “ apostolica sit merito consulenda, quas quidem con-
 “ cessiones sanctissi. in Xto, patres Bonifacius Papa
 “ non. Martinus quintus, Paulus secund. et Sixtus
 “ papa quintus misericorditr. p. ampli. confirmat.
 “ confirmavi et qd. dilecti. nobis in Christo Tho.
 “ Hutton — — — Dekkys, caritat. subsidia
 “ nobis donaver. in dictam confraternitatem nostram
 “ eos

" eos assumimus, et intr. nostros confratres Xti. pau-
 " peres — — amus eos — in Deo possumus
 " omnium bonor. spiritualium intr. nos confratres
 " habitores. et in posterum habendor. missar. et alior.
 " omn. jejunior. vigiliar. abstinentiar. elemosinar. et
 " peregrinat. participes esse volumus p. p'sentes. In
 " cujus rei testimon. sigill. custod. hospital. nostri
 " p'dicti p'sentib; est appensum. Dat. apd. Walsfo-
 " kenin capella n'ra, secdo die Octob. Anno. D'ni.
 " Millesimo cccc. lxxxix."

The seal is oblong, having under an arch, the
 effigies or representation of God the father, support-
 ing our Saviour on the cross, as was frequently and
 profanely used in the church of Rome; below that
 the custos at prayers, with a legend, " Sigill. —
 " confrat. et consoror. — Trinit. de Walsoken."

The absolution on the admission of a brother,
&c. was

" Auctoritate Dei Omnipot. et beator. Petri et
 " Pauli ac auctoritate apostolica mihi in hac parte
 " commissa, Ego Te absolvo ob omnib; peccatis p.
 " te vere contritis et mihi confessis, nec non ab om-
 " nib; peccatis tuis oblitis de quib; velles confiteri
 " si tue occur rerit memorie ac septimam partem pæ-
 " nitent. Auctoritate literar. et postolicar. concessar.
 " relaxo, in nomine patris, &c."

By a like deed, John Berners, esq. was admitted
 in 1476, who was second son of Thomas Berners,
 esq. second son of sir John Berners, lord Berners,
 who married a daughter and coheir of sir Henry
 Bruin, of South Okendon in Essex.

The title of Berners, an old barony, is now in obedience. It was claimed and allowed by the House of Peers to the late Catherine Knevet, lady Berners, who many years resided at Heigham near Norwich: her daughter married — Wilton, esq. brother of John Wilton, esq. of Stanhoe, and father to Henry William Wilton, esq. of Dudlington in the hundred of South Greenhoe, formerly an officer in the late sir Robert Rich's regiment of dragoons, and served in the war of 1744, in Flanders. The Hon. Mrs. Wilton his mother is still living: She had a brother in the army, captain Knevet, who would have succeeded to the title had he outlived the lady Berners his mother, but he died before her, the baroness living to a great age.

Walsoken sea bank from Newgate-slough to Emneth sea dike, was three miles in length.

WALTON, WEST, that is, a town by the wall or mound which was to defend it from the tides, &c. and called West in respect to another Walton in this hundred, &c. lying east of it.

The PRIOR of LEWES'S MANOR. On the dissolution of the priory of Lewes, Robert the last prior, granted this lordship, that of Walsoken, &c. by fine, passed in at St. Michaelmas term, to king Hen. VIII. in his 29th year; and on the 22d of December in the said year, the king granted it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, together with the mediety of the church belonging to the said priory, to be held *in capite* by knight's service; but was forfeited to the crown afterwards, on the attainder of the duke of Norfolk; and was granted July 1, by queen Elizabeth, in her 23d year, to Philip Howard, earl of Arundel, son of Thomas the late duke,
which

which Philip being also attainted, it came to the crown, and was granted November 22, in the 6th year of king James I. to Thomas earl of Suffolk.

And on December 1, in the 10th of king James I. this lordship with that of Walsoken and Walpole, late belonging to the prior of Lewes, was conveyed to John Hare, esq. son of John Hare, mercer of London, (brother of sir Nicholas Hare) by Dorothy his wife; which John Hare, by Margaret his wife, daughter of John Croch, of Cornbury in Hertfordshire, esq. had Hugh Hare, who was created lord of Colraine in Ireland, August 3, 1625, and by Lucy, daughter of Henry earl of Manchester, had Henry lord Colraine, who by Constantia, daughter of sir Richard Lucy, of Broxbourn in Hertfordshire, bart. had Hugh Hare, esq. who died before his father, and left by Lydia his wife, daughter of Matthew Carleton, of Edmunton in Middlesex, esq. Henry Hare his son, born May 11, 1693, lord of Colraine, who married Constantia, daughter of Mr. Hanger, of London, merchant.

On the death of the late Henry lord Colraine, in 1749, it came to the crown, as an escheat, his heir being a minor and an alien.

James Townsend, esq. alderman of London, is the present lord.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. St. Adeldreda, or St. Audrey, that is the church of Ely, held in the time of king Edward, and at the survey, a lordship.

This manor is now held by sir Martin Folkes, of Hillington, Bart. on a lease from the crown.

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LOVELL'S MANOR, &c. CLARE FEE. The family of Repps had also lands in this town, held of several lords.

Thomas de Repps was a commissioner of sewers, to view the sea walls, bridges, and causeways along the sea coasts, between Wiggshall, Terrington and Lynn, and to levy money for their repairs, in the 2d year of Edward III. and in the 38th of Henry VI.

In the 24th of Henry VIII. Robert, prior of St. Pancras of Lewes, and the convent demised to John Repps, late of West Walton, gent. their manor of West Walton, the scite of the manor, houses, demesne lands, meadow, feeding pastures, (except the hall, and two chambers at both ends of the hall) with the garden, the meadow called Bromstoven, and the new hall, at the yearly rent of 26l. 13s. 4d.

Repps was to farm the same, to find the prior's officers, when then they came, oats, hay and beans, as long as they staid; the prior to repair the sea-banks, sea dikes, fen dikes, and to pay the king's dues: And in the 31st of Henry VIII. the manor of Sybelis, or Syblys, with messuages and tenements in West Walton and Walpole, was conveyed to him by fine from Thomas Holland, gent. which manor was late Henry Smith's, Margaret, one of his daughters and co-heirs, being married to this John Repps, another daughter and co-heir to Holland.

By an inquisition taken at Norwich, October 1, in the 5th of Charles I. it was found that Henry Repps, esq. died in the 4th of Charles I. on the 23d of March, seised of a capital messuage, three hundred and twenty-four acres of land, of which
the

the messuage, with fifty-eight acres, was held of the king's manor in West Walton, in soccage, and paid 12s. 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ per ann. also of sixteen acres held of Colville's manor, in soccage, of fifty-four acres held of Hunston's manor, in soccage, and of one hundred and ninety-six acres held of the manor of West Walton, in soccage; and the manor of Clare, in Walpole, held of the king, of the honour of Clare, by knight's service, and John was his son and heir, aged 18, Sept. 16, in 1629, by Ann, daughter of — Cotterell, esq.

John Repps, esq. died possessed of it about 1750, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, viz.

1. Frances, married to the Rev. Mr. James Baldwin, formerly of Trinity college in Cambridge, rector of Lyng and Brandon; a clergyman much respected by all who have the pleasure of knowing him.

2. Dorothy, married to George Schutz, esq. son of the late Right Hon. Augustus Schutz, one of the privy-counsellors to their majesties George I. and II. a gentleman of an amiable character, like his father, and a groom of the bed-chamber to the late king.

3. Vertue, married to Edward Hase, esq. of Sall, youngest son of Mr. John Hase, of East Dereham.

This John Repps, esq. of Mattishall, on the death of his father in 1723, paid his fine for this manor, which extended into Walpole, and held of the honor of Clare.

The late John Repps, esq. of Mattishall, (by whose death the male line of the family became extinct) married Vertue, daughter of James Boardman, esq. mayor of Lynn in 1717: Margaret, his youngest daughter, married his youngest daughter and co-heiress, married Benjamin Bromhead, esq. of Thureby near Lincoln.

The church of West Walton is dedicated to St. Mary; it has a curious free-stone tower, standing south of the church about twenty-two yards, in which are five bells, a nave, a north and south isle, all covered with lead, with a chancel, and consists of two medieties.

In the north isle is a monument to the memory of John Reppes, esq. who died Mrch^r 25, 1561, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, with the following inscription:

Here lyeth John Reppes, of West Walton in the county of Norfolk, Esq; who decessed the 25th day of March in the year of our Lord God M.CCCCCLXI. which had two wyves, the whiche was Margaret, eldest daughter, and one of the heyres of Henry Smythe, by whom he had yssue Henrye Reppes, that now ys, and seven daughters; and hys second wife was Thomasen, daughter to Thomas Derham, by whom he had Ela and John.

About this are several shields—ermine, three chevrons, argent, Repps, with a crest, a plume of feathers, ermine, issuing out of a coronet, with a pair of wings, or.—Repps, impaling Heveningham, quarterly, or, and gules, in a bordure engrailed, sable, of eight escallops, argent.—Jermy, argent, a leopard salient, guardant, gules, with his crest, a griffin passant,

fant, gules.—Jermy, impaling Mountenoy, azure, a bend between six martlets, or.—Jermy, impaling Worth, argent, on a bend, sable, three lions heads erased of the first, crowned, or.—Repps, impaling Jermy; Repps, impaling Holditch, argent, on a chevron, or, two seapies proper.—Repps and Smith, (quarterly) or, a bend, azure, between three trefoils slipped, vert.—Repps, impaling Derham, azure, a buck's head cabosed, or.

There is another monument to the memory of Henry Repps, esq. son of the above John, who married first, Dorothy, the daughter of sir Christopher Jenney, knt. and secondly, Elizabeth, the daughter of sir Francis Lovell, knt. By the first he had a daughter, Margaret, afterwards married to Francis Wodehouse, esq. and a second daughter who died an infant. By Elizabeth he had four sons and two daughters; two of his sons alone survived him.—The Latin inscription is as follows:

Monumentum viri multiplici eruditione insingis, sinceræ pietatis, veræq; justitiæ, cultoris egregij, Henrici Reppes, Armigeri, cujus corpus in cineres resolutum, anima vero in Dei manu superstes diem restitutionis omnium placide expectat. Qui dum patriæ charus in vivis ageret duas fœminas virtute spectabiles, et origine illustres uxores duxit, nempe Dorotheam filiam Christopheri Fenny, Militis, et Elizabetham filiam Franciscij Lovell, Militis: Dorothea duas tantum filias partu dedit; Margaretam quæ nuptui tradita fuit Francisco Woodehowse, Armigero, et Elizabetham, quæ naturæ debita citissime solvit; Elizabetha, vero in Dorotheæ vicem parens fecundior succedens hisce sex liberis Henricum auxit, Henrico, Anna, Johanne seniore, Thomasina, Francisco, Joanne juniore; ex quibus Joh. seniore, et Franciscus hujus lucis usura modo fruntur;

untur: Joannes duas sibi virgines lecliffimas uxores adjunxit, primum Annam, filiam Henr. Weston, Militis, deinde Mariam, filiam Richardi Lambert, Armigeri; Franciscus locatam accepit Janam filiam Humfridi Guybon, Armigeri, tandem ærumnosæ vitæ metam pertingens, Henric. corporis hujus tabernaculo terrestri deposito exequiarum justis potitus est 10, die Octob. A°. ab Incarnato Messiah, 1566.

About this are the shields of Repps and Smith, impaled, and the crest of Repps; Wodehouse, of Waxham, quarterly, ermine and azure, a leopard's head, or, impaling Repps.—Repps and Smith, quarterly, impaling Jenney, ermine, a bend, gules, cottised, or.—Repps and Smith, &c. impaling Weston, ermine, on a chief azure, five bezants.—Repps, &c. impaling Lovell, argent, a chevron, azure, between three squirrels, sejant, gules.—Repps, &c. impaling Lambert, — on a bend engrailed, between two lions rampant, three annulets.—Repps, &c. impaling Guybon, or, a lion rampant, sable, over all, on a bend, gules, three escallops, argent.

The church of West Walton consisted of two medietyes, one in the patronage of the bishop of Ely, the other in the prior and convent of Lewes.

James Townsend, esq. alderman of London, is patron of one mediety, and the other is in the crown. The Rev. Robert Say, of Swaffham, chaplain to the earl of Orford, and rector of North Pickenham, was presented to the mediety in the crown, by the Lord Chancellor Henley, earl of Northington, in 1762, and is the present rector.

The

The Rev. Richard Whish was presented to the other mediety by James Townsend, esq. 1777.

Walton sea bank, from Noveche Gate to Newton Slough, was two miles and an half long.

About a mile west of Walton church is a ferry over Wisbech river to the Isle of Ely side, and a ford which may at certain times of the tide be crossed on horseback. The ferry-house on the Isle of Ely side, is half a mile east of the turnpike-road from Wisbech to Long Sutton, and near the parish of Newton, the estate of Richard Colville, esq. and about seven miles from Dunton, the estate of sir Clement Trafford in Lincolnshire, cross the Shire Drain.

On the *west* side of Wisbech river, and in the isle of Ely, are two hundred acres of land belonging to the parish of West Walton and county of Norfolk; and, on the *east* side of the same river, next to Walpole salt-marshes, are seventy acres, embanked, called Tid-marsh Farm, which belong to the parish of Tid St. Giles in the isle of Ely and county of Cambridge, which may be seen accurately delineated in Mr. Armstrong's map of Norfolk.

WIGGENHALL ST. GERMAIN'S. William de Scohies had considerable lordships in Illington, and in Clenchwarton at the survey, that extended, as it seems, into this town, and soon after came to Walter Giffard, earl of Buckingham, whose son Walter, and his countess, gave to the monks of the church of Norwich, serving God at Lynn, the church of St. Germain's of Wiggenhall, together with a certain payment of 5s. per ann. which their chaplains received out of the same.

FITTON'S MANOR. The antient family of Fitton were very early enfeoffed herein.

The manor of Fitton's is now in the corporation of Lynn, and the hundred-court is said to have been antiently held at Fitton oak in this manor.

Part of the manor of Fitton's in this town came to sir William Howard, by the marriage of Alice, one of the daughters of sir Edmund, and sister and co-heir to sir John de Fitton, which sir William had considerable estates in these towns, as descended from the antient family of De Wigenhale, who took their names from these towns. As the noble family of the Howards, dukes of Norfolk, earls of Suffolk, Berkshire, Carlisle, Stafford, Effingham, &c. derive their descent from this truly great and eminent person, it will be excusable in us if we mention some things relating to this family, which, as far as we have seen, have not been observed by other authors.

The first that we meet with of the ancient family of de Wigenhale, is Peter, whose son, Simon de Wigenhale, was found to owe half a mark for exporting corn without a licence, in the 24th of Henry II. 1178; and at the same time Robert Passelew owed half a mark, Alured and Surerd de Lenne, half a mark on the same account.

In an old pedigree of the family of the Howards, in Caius College, Cambridge, Fulco or Fulk, stands at the head of it. Of this Fulco we find no account or voucher, that he bore the name of Wigenhale; but that Jeffrey was son of Fulco appears from certain deeds, also that Alan was son of Jeffrey;

rey; that William was son of Alan, appears also from antient deeds.

In the 8th of Richard I. 1197, a fine was levied between Peter, son of Richard de Wigenhale, querent, and William, son of Alan de Clenchwarton, tenant, of four carucates of land in Wiggenhall, Clenchwarton, Tilney, Lynn, Illington, &c. granted to Peter, who re-conveyed them to Alan.

This considerable parcel of land is said to belong to the fees of several lords, viz. of Simon Fitz-Richard, who held of the earls of Clare; of Peter de Bexwell, who held of the church of Ely; of the abbey of Bury; of the priory of Lewes; of the earl of Britain's fee; of the earl Warren's; of Godfrey de Lifewis, (that is, the earl Montfort's fee) &c. and William grants to Peter and his heirs, the tenement which Richard his father held of him in Wiggenhall, with lands in Tilney called Potter's Croft.

It is very probable that this Peter, son of Richard de Wigenhale, was some near relation to William, son of Alan de Clenchwarton, by this trust reposed in him in this fine.

This William is said to have assumed the name of de Wigenhale; but by the fine above he rather, at that time, seems to bear the same name with his father, viz. de Clenchwarton; but this is no objection, or argument against his taking up afterwards the name of de Wigenhale.

They who are conversant in very antient deeds, &c. may often observe, that persons who held different

ferent tenures or lordships, often varied their names according to the names of the towns wherein those their lordships lay, and their sons followed the same practice, not always taking the name of their father, but from the lordship of some town wherein they were enfeoffed.

This therefore makes a great difficulty in the settling of antient pedigrees, when these practices and customs were so prevailing and common.

Richard Everard, by his will dated May 20, 1569, gave the manor of Fittons, to John Everard; and by an inquisition taken at Hoxne the last day of March in the 15th of Elizabeth, on the death of John Everard, the jury find that he died seised of it, twelve messuages, three hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, two hundred of pasture, ten of wood, one hundred of moor, two hundred of marsh, and forty shilling rent in Wiggerhall St. Germain's, and Islington, on December 15 last past, without issue, and that Henry Everard, of Linstead in Suffolk, was his cousin and heir, all which were held of the lord Latimer and sir Robert Wingfield, by fealty, and the payment of 1s. per ann.

This manor was lately possessed by sir Robert Brown, bart.

The church is dedicated to St. Germain, was formerly a rectory, but being appropriated to the office of the cellarer in the church of Norwich, by John de Grey, bishop of Norwich, a vicarage was settled, which was in the presentation of the priory of Norwich, and is now in the dean and chapter, and the great tithes were let to sir Robert Brown, bart.

It

It consists of a nave, and a south isle covered with lead, and a north isle with tiles, and a chancel.

Some time past the floor of the church was found to be at least eight feet below the high water mark of the adjoining Ouse. The tower is four square, and there are four bells.

Here is a bridge over the river Ouse into Marshland. St. German's is situated about four miles from Lynn, on a turnpike-road that is carried on to Wisbech.

The Rev. Thorogood Upwood was presented to this vicarage by the dean and chapter of Norwich in 1749.

WIGGENHALL ST. MARY. Hermerus de Ferrariis, who had, by the gift of the Conqueror, lordships in Tilney and Illington, was also lord here; those manors extending here, which came after to the lords Bardolph,

The ancient family of Capravill, or Kervile, held the chief manor in this town of the lords Bardolph, and had their seat, or residence, here.

Thomas Kervile, esq. was lord in the year 1407, and Mary his wife was daughter and co-heir of Gilbert Haultoft, of the Isle of Ely, baron of the exchequer in the time of Henry VI. Humphry was his son and heir, who married Alice, or Ann, daughter of John Fincham, esq. of Fincham, by whom he had Humphry his son and heir, who married Ann, daughter of Jeffrey Cobbe, esq. of Sandringham in Norfolk, and had three sons and seven daughters.

Thomas

Thomas his eldest, William his second, and Edmund the third, who married Catherine, daughter of William Saunders, esq. She married to her second husband John Spelman, esq. of Narburgh, and to her third Miles Corbet, esq.

Alice Kervile, a daughter, married first John Bedingfield, esq. and afterwards sir John Sulyard, knt. Elizabeth married Robert Bozoun, esq. of Whiffonfett, esq. Eleanor to ——— Neal, esq. Joan to John Shouldham, esq. Catherine to ——— Gawfell, esq. Margaret, first married Nicholas Dean, of Wiggenhall, gent. and afterwards John Shorditch, alias Bexwell, esq. of Bexwell, and Mary to ———.

Thomas Kervile, esq. the eldest son, married Alice, daughter of sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, by whom he had Henry Kervile, esq. who by Winefred his wife, daughter of sir Anthony Thorold, knt. and relict of George Clifton, esq. of Nottinghamshire; her third husband was sir Edward Gawfell, knt. and sir Henry Kervile, who married Mary, daughter of Franc. Plowden, esq. by whom he had two children, who died in their infancy. He was a bigoted papist, and about November 1620, was accused by sir Christopher Heydon, knt. that the papists met at his house, in order to subscribe to aid and assist the emperor, against the king of Bohemia, when king James I. requested a loan (for the recovery of the Palatinate) from the nobility and gentry of England, whereupon he was sent for to the council table, imprisoned some time, and his papers seized, but was afterwards released.

Sir Henry Spelman says, that on his death (1624) the estate of the Kerviles came into the family of
the

the Cobbes, of Sandringham, but 'tis certain it did not continue long so.

In the 21st of king Charles I. John Williamson, gent. had a præcipe to deliver it to Gregory Gawfell, esq. who was eldest son of Thomas Gawfell, esq. of Watlington, and dying unmarried in 1656, this lordship came to Hatton Berners, esq. (son of Arthur Berners, esq. of Finchingfield in Essex, by Elizabeth his wife, eldest sister of Gregory Gawfell aforesaid) who was high sheriff of Norfolk in 1666, and on his death in 1713, it descended to Gregory his eldest son, who dying unmarried in 1715, his brother William was his heir, who married and had several children, and dying in 1727, this estate was soon after sold in order to pay his debts, to sir Robert Brown, bart. who was his majesty's resident or consul at Venice, and created a baronet in the 5th of king George II. was a member of parliament for Ilchester in Somersetshire, and in the year 1741 appointed pay master of all his majesty's works, and lord of this town. His arms, gules, a chevron, between three fleurs de lys, or—crest, on a wreath, a demy lion rampant, gules, in his dexter paw a fleur de lys, as before—motto, "Gaugeo." He died October 5, 1760, leaving a widow and two daughters.

At a place called Wathden, or Waterden, in this parish, serjeant Goddard observes there was to be seen in his time some remains of a church, also bones that appear at a low ebb upon the river side.

The old hall, or manor-house, was a large building of brick, with a good tower, or gate-house, embattled and built by the Kerviles, with their arms thereon,

thereon; the greatest part of it is pulled down, and inhabited by a tenant.

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. In the 14th of Edward I. Hubert, prior of Westacre, held lands here.

On the dissolution it came to the crown; and in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, lands belonging to this house, in the tenure of John Saunderfon, were granted to sir John Perrot, on July 2; but the appropriated rectory was granted by queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, July 2, to John Harrington and George Burden, and the patronage of the vicarage remained in the crown.

The bishop of Ely had a little homage here of several free tenants, probably belonging to his manor West Walton, which extended here, but it had not let.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a very regular pile, having a body, a north and south isle, and a chancel; the nave, or body, is thatched, the isles, and a south porch, covered with lead: in the steeple, which is four-square, are five bells.

On a black marble wall-piece this inscription:

“ Hic deponitur corpus Henrici Kervilj, equitis
 “ aurati, filij et hæredis Henrici Kervillj, Armig. de
 “ Winefreda conjugæ suæ, Antonij Thorold, militis,
 “ filia procreati; uxorem duxit Mariam, Franciscj
 “ Plowden, Armig. gnatam, e qua prolem binam,
 “ sed in cunabulis extinctam suscepit, Gervasium
 “ scilicet et Mariam; sororem habuet unicam, An-
 “ nam Rob^o. Thorald, Armig. nuptam, sine exitu
 “ defunctam,

“ defunctam, 26 Junij, 1624, obiit, et in illo anti-
 “ qui fui ftemmatis Kervillorum nomen; Quam re-
 “ liquit conjux vita, eum fequuta eft, confors morte
 “ Martij 6to eodem anno.

On a marble ftone lying near the eaft end of
 this ifle :

*Here lye the bodies of Grace and Katherine, daughters
 of Hatton Berners, Esq; and Bridget his wife, the only
 fifter of Sir Simon Leach, of Devonfhire, Kt: of the
 Bath; Grace dyed the 16th of July 1682, aged above
 4 years, the other the 10th of November 1680, aged 4
 months.—Also the bodies of William and Mary, the fon
 and daughter of William Berners. Esq; he dyed 13th
 of April 1718, aged 4 months; fhe the 1ft of April
 1719, aged 4 months.*

In the chancel eaft window is gules, a fefs be-
 tween fix crofs crofslets, or, Beauchamp; and on a
 canton, a maunch, gules, the arms of Tony, and
 antiently fable, a chevron, ermine, between three
 crofs crofslets botony fitchee, and the lord Scales.

On a marble grave-ftone in the chancel, with the
 arms of Berners, quarterly, vert and or, impaling
 ermine, on a chief indented gules, three ducal co-
 ronets, or, Leach :

*Here lyeth the body of Hatton Berners, Esq; who
 dyed November 23, 1713, aged 73.*

Another with the arms of Berners:—*In memory of
 Simon, firft fon of Hatton Berners, Esq; who dyed
 1693, aged 18, and Bridget his wife.*

Also one for—*Bridget, wife of Hatton Berners, only sister to Sir Simon Leach, of Devonshire, knight of the Bath, she dyed January 15, 1705.*

One—*In memory of William Berners, Esq; who dyed June 9, 1727, aged — years, and of Jane his wife, who dyed April 10, 1725, aged 41: with the arms of Berners, impaling three lions passant, two and one.*

Another with the arms of Berners, for—*Gregory Berners, Esq; who dyed Febrnary 14, 1715, aged 34 years.*

On the dissolution it came to the crown, and queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, July 2, granted this rectory to John Harrington and George Burden.

In 1755, the Rev. John Daville was presented by the king, and is the present vicar, 1779.

SADLEBOW is an hamlet near the river belonging to the parish of St. Mary Wiggenhall.

Robert Apreece, Esq. on July 7, 1662, sold his manor here to Mr. Daniel Rawlinson, citizen of London, who by his last will in 1667, left it to his eldest son, sir Thomas Rawlinson, afterwards lord mayor of London, by whom it was settled in jointure on Mary his wife, daughter of Richard Taylor, esq. of Chifwick in Middlesex, 1680; and on her death, in 1724, it came to her eldest son Thomas; and on his death, to his brother Richard Rawlinson, L. L. D. of London, who sold it in November 1735, to sir Robert Brown, bart, a fee farm rent of five pounds per ann. free from all charges, &c. being reserved

served out of it, and granted to the doctor and his heirs for ever.

WIGGENHALL ST. MARY MAGDALEN.

The principal lordship in this town was in the family of Caprevill, Cherville or Kervile.

We have seen a memorandum wrote by Guybon Goddard, esq. serjeant at law, and recorder of Lynn, who was a curious collector of antiquities, and died in 1671, wherein he observes in his time, in digging to set down a new sluice a little below Magdalen-fall, which is about half a mile from Magdalen-bridge, on Marshland side, there was found, about sixteen feet within soyl, a grave-stone, of about eight feet long, and a cart-wheel near to it; the grave-stone is now in Magdalen church yard. Mr. Emerson, from whom, says he, I had this relation, was the man that employed the workmen. Many oaks and firs are daily taken up, and they lie about two or three feet deep under the soyl,

All the land in this parish is said to be freehold, and certain freehold rents are paid to the lord Fitz-Williams, lord of Kenwick in Tilney, and to sir Richard Brown, who is lord of Wiggenhall St. Mary's. William de Lifewise, who was founder of the priory of Crabhouse in this town, had a lordship here in the reign of Henry II. and in Illington and Clenchwarton; by a daughter and co-heir of his grandson, it came by marriage to the Ingaldesthorpes, and sir Edmund de Ingaldesthorpe died seised of lordships in the aforesaid towns, 1456, leaving Isabel his only daughter and heir, married to John Nevill, marquis Montacute, whose estate being afterwards divided amongst his five daughters

and co-heirs; this came by Lucy, one of the said daughters and co-heirs, to the family of Fitz-Williams, by her marriage with sir Thomas Fitz-Williams, of Aldwark in Yorkshire, in the reign of king Henry VII.

The church of St. Mary Magdalen of Wiggenhall, is a regular good building, consisting of a nave, a north and south isle, with its porch, and a chancel, all covered with lead; at the west end stands a four-square tower of stone.

In this monastery the rectory remained, with the patronage of the vicarage, till the dissolution of it, when in the 29th of Henry VIII. Thomas the prior, conveyed them by fine to that king, and on the 22d of December in the said year, the king granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk; and the said duke, on the first of November in the first year of queen Elizabeth, granted by deed to Thomas Welles of this town, the rectory and the advowson of the vicarage, and Welles presented in 1565, &c.

By an inquisition taken at Norwich, January 14, in the 22d of James I. it was found that Thomas Oxborough, esq. died December 8, in the 21st of that king, possessed of this rectory, sixty-six acres of land, the advowson of the vicarage, three messuages, one cottage, fifteen acres of pasture, and thirty of marsh, in this parish and St. Germain's, late parcel of the priory of Castleacre, held *in capite* by knight's service.

Thomas was his son and heir, by Thomafine his wife, who held the same, and had by Audrey his wife, Hewar Oxborough, his son and heir, and
Lawrence

Lawrence his second son; Hewar dying in 1628, it came to his brother Lawrence, then aged 18.

Mr. Bateson died possessed of the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, and his daughter and heir, Sufannah, being married to Mr. Garforth, vicar, possessed them in her right.

In 1756, the Rev. Roger Wilson was presented by Susan Garforth, widow.

CRABHOUSE NUNNERY. In this parish of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, on the bank of the river Ouse, south of the town, was this house, (dedicated to St. John the Evangelist) of nuns of the order of St. Augustine.

It was founded by Roger, the prior, and convent of Rainham, about 1181, with the consent of William de Lifewise, who was lord of the scite, and the founder of the little priory called Normansbergh, in South Rainham.

This William lived in the reign of king Henry II. and held lordships in Gately, Rainham, &c. under the Montforts, which family descended from Hugh de Monteforti, who was lord also of Iffington, Clench-warton, &c. (towns adjoining to this) of the gift of the Conqueror, and Lifewise held under him.

On the 28th of June, queen Mary in her 1st year granted to sir John Gage, knt. of Suffex, the scite of this priory, gardens, orchard, and demean lands appertaining to it, with the moiety of the tithe of a field called Peter's Field, and a moiety of the rectory of St. Peter's Wiggenhall, with all the messuages,

messuages, lands, &c. belonging to it in Wiggenhall, Tilney, Irlington, Setchy, West Winch, Clenchwar-ton, Lynn, Wimbottisham, Thorpe, Elme, Emneth, &c. to be held by knight's service,

Sir John by his will, dated February 20, 1555, and proved June 10 following, gives to the vicar of St. Mary Magdalen, Wiggenhall, the tithe of a field here, called part of the demeans of Crabhouse; the vicar and his successors praying for him by name, in the parish church every Sunday at high mass, for evermore.

Sir Edward Gage, his son, died seised of it in 1568; and after him John Gage, esq. possessed it; but in the 12th of Elizabeth, Thomas Guilford had licence to alienate the manor of Crabhouse, with the appurtenances, to Thomas Low; and in the 21st of that queen, William Chapman and Robert Wythen, had a pardon for purchasing it of Low without licence, and in that year Thomas Hanmer had licence to alienate it, with the moiety of St. Peter's Wiggenhall rectory, to Roger Powell.

After this it was possessed by Mr. John Wright, Sir H. Spelman says his son consumed his estate, and sold it to Mr. William Guybon, of Watlington, who held it about 1640.

Of this family was Mrs. Guybon, who married captain Pamplin, of Wallington, by Mildenhall, who surviving him, and dying without issue, gave it by will to Mrs. Howlet, her companion, who lived with her, and she left it to her nephew, whose daughter, or niece, brought it by marriage to Mr. Thorold, the late owner.

WIGGENHALL

WIGGENHALL ST. PETER. As the towns of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, and St. Mary's, with their churches, stand on the west side of the great river Ouse, in Marshland, so the towns of St. Peter's and St. Germain's Wiggenhall, with their churches, stand on the east side of the said river, next that part of the hundred that is called Freebridge citra Lynn.

SHOULDHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the reign of king John, Jeffrey Fitzpiers, earl of Essex, who held large possessions of the honour of Clare, gave, on his foundation of Shouldham priory, all his lands here, with a moiety of the advowson of this church, which was appropriated to it, and William de Wygenhale, who held considerable lands of the said honour, aliened to the aforesaid priory six acres in Wiggenhall, and many acres in several other towns.

Sir Robert Brown, bart. late lord, his manor of St. Mary's Wiggenhall extended here, and now is in his lady.

The church of St. Peter's has a nave, or body, covered with tiles, a south isle covered with lead, a chancel with reed, and a square tower with one bell.

It consisted anciently of two rectories, or medieties; one in the earl of Clare's fee was very early appropriated to Shouldham priory, and a vicarage endowed, of which the prior was patron; but the bishop of Norwich for the most part presented. This on the dissolution came to the crown, and the vicar is presented by the lord chancellor, valued in the king's books at 9l. and is discharged from the payment of first fruits, &c.

The

The other mediety in Montford's fee was appropriated to Crabhouse priory, and no vicarage was settled, and called the mediety of Robert the rector, in the 2d year of Richard II.) but the patronage appears to be in that house in 1310.

The present impropriator is Mr. Edwards.

The Rev. Thorogood Upwood was presented to the vicarage of Wiggshall St. Peter by the crown, in 1771.

The towns of WIGGENHALL in MARSHLAND. Sir W. Dugdale, in his History of Imbanking, is of opinion that the Romans were the persons who originally gained from the sea this part of Norfolk, called Marshland, where the Saxons were also invited to settle, from the extraordinary fertility of the soil; and that they did so is evident, says he, from the authentic survey taken by the Norman Conqueror, which sheweth that the towns now in being there, were also extant in the days of king Edward the Confessor.

That this is a just observation is not to be denied, to which we may add, that those towns have also Saxon names, and the lords of many of those towns are accounted for with their fees and tenures, in the said survey, as they were held both in the reign of king Edward the Confessor, and in that of the Conqueror; but the account of the Wiggshalls, which make four distinct townships and parishes, is not so particular as several of the other townships.

Wigrehale is undoubtedly a Saxon name, and seems to set forth and signify that at this place was
 a great

a great force or press of water, both from the sea and river Ouse, expressed by the word Wigre, Hygre or Eager, (as it is generally called at this day) which denotes a raging swell or roll of water, increased by the opposition of any bank or fence against it, and Hale, which does not signify a hall, or mansion-house, (as many antiquaries interpret it) Hale is the same as Ale, that is, All-water: thus, Alestham, Alesford, Halesworth,* &c. or it may be derived from Wick or Wicken, and Halewick, &c. being a turn of water or a river.

And it appears from an ancient pleading, that before the year 1181, (27th of Henry II.) that there was neither any habitation, or ground that yielded profit within that part of Wiggenshall, (St. Mary Magdalen) from a place called Buslard's Dole, to the south side of the said town, except the monastery of Crabhouse, all being then waste, and in the nature of a desolate fen.

But afterwards divers inhabitants in the neighbourhood came, and by draining and banking, gained as much by their industry as they could, and that they might the more securely enjoy the same, were content to be tenants for it under such great men (or lords) of whom they held their other lands; and upon this agreement and occasion, by a common consent was made the old Podike, first raised about 1222.

In the 2d of Henry III. 1217, it appears that this good work of draining had been successful; for Hugh de Burgo, earl of Kent, and lord chief justice of England, and Eustachius, bishop of Ely, had then

D d a grant

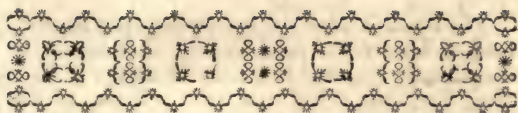
* All these towns lie near some river, &c.—Parkin.

a grant, or writ of seifen, of all the marsh between Wiggerhall and Well, Hackbeach, Tilney, and Terrington; no doubt on some assurances of their better imbanking and securing it, and that what they had performed, might very probably induce the neighbouring lords, tenants, and others, to proceed further.









T H E
H I S T O R Y
O F
N O R F O L K.

HUNDRED of GALLOW.



ENRY I. gave this hundred with Brothercrofs to earl Warren and Surrey, holding of the caſtle of Norwich on payment of two marks per ann. In the general ſurvey made by William I. ſeveral lordſhips now in Brothercrofs were comprehended in Gallow, and, *viſe verſa*, others were ſtated in Brothercrofs which are now in the hundred of Gallow.

They were afterwards, by Edward II. conveyed to Henry duke of Lancaſter, whoſe daughter Blanch, married John of Gaunt, and ſo became a part of the dutchy of Lancaſter, now belonging to the crown.

The

HUNDRED OF

The hundred court, it is supposed, was antiently held in some fields near Dunton, then known by the name the hundred now bears, Galehow or Galeflow, signifying a hill near water. In the 3d and 10th of Elizabeth, the hundred court was held at a place called Longfield-stone.

This hundred comprehends a tract of rich country, extending fifteen miles in length from east to west, and about eight from north to south: In it there are twenty-nine parishes, eighteen of which belong to the deanry of Burnham and eleven to Toftrees; the former in the archdeaconry of Norfolk, and the latter in that of Norwich.

There are several fine seats, particularly Houghton and Rainham, which will be fully described in this hundred, and the whole of the lands have undergone a system of improvement equal to any other part in the county.—The features of the country are bold and striking, and afford many prospects not less extensive than picturesque. The only market town in this hundred is Fakenham.

The number of votes in the hundred of Gallow, that were polled at the great contested election for the county of Norfolk, at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between sir Armine Wodehouse, bart. of Kimberley, Thomas de Grey, esq. of Merton, sir Edward Astley, bart. of Melton-Constable, and Wenman Coke, esq. of Holkham, were as follows:

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Bagthorpe	1	1	0	0
Barmer,	0	1	1	0
Basham, N. and W.	3	4	5	4
Dunton with Doughton	0	0	2	2
Fakenham	7	8	10	9
			Fulmondeston	

G A L L O W.

5

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Fulmondeston with Croxton	1	1	2	2
Helhoughton -	0	1	1	0
Hempton - -	1	1	2	2
Houghton - -	2	2	0	0
Kettlestone - -	1	5	5	1
Norton Pudding -	0	0	1	1
Penfithorpe - -	1	1	0	0
Rainham, E. S. and W.	12	12	1	1
Rudham, E. and W.	10	10	0	0
Ryburgh, Great and Little	8	8	0	0
Sculthorpe - -	0	0	3	3
Sherford - -	1	1	0	0
Snoring, Little -	1	2	6	5
Stibbard - -	2	4	5	3
Tatterford - -	1	1	0	0
Tatterfet <i>alias</i> Gatefend	2	2	1	0
Tostrees - -	3	3	0	0
	57	68	45	33

Seats, and principal houses in GALLOW hundred.

Bagthorpe, hon. Charles Vane.

Basham West, John Balders, esq.

Fulmondeston, John Brown, esq.

Houghton hall, Earl of ORFORD, lord lieutenant of the county of Norfolk.

Raynham hall, lord viscount TOWNSHEND, master general of the ordnance.

Sculthorpe, Cranmore, Daniel Jones, esq.

BAGTHORPE, placed under Brothercrofs hundred, a lordship of the earl Warren in Doomsday-book.

CASTLEACRE

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. The family of de Frevil was very early enfeoffed of this manor, by the earl Warren. It was afterwards in the family of de Bagthorpe.

Mr. Stringer was lord and patron in 1740.

Mr. Robert Barber is the present lord of this manor, and patron; who presented the Rev. Mr. Edward Waller to this rectory in 1771.

In this town the honorable Charles Vane, uncle to the present earl of Darlington, has built an handsome seat, called MOUNT IDA. The gardens, hot walls and pineries here are much admired.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Mary, and is a very little, mean edifice, without any monument, &c.

BARMER, called Benemare in Doomsday-book, when it was the lordship of William earl Warren.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR. The temporalities of the priory, in 1428, were valued at 4l. 13s. 4d. at the dissolution, king Henry VIII. on May 9, in his 29th year, granted it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, with the advowson, all its liberties, courts lete, and view of frank pledge, foldcourse, &c. for one thousand years; and the duke of Norfolk granted it to Robert Bozoun, esq. of Stody *Ao. 9*, Elizabeth, a pepper corn per ann. if demanded: Bozoun conveyed it to Roger Townshend, esq. Jan. 8, in the 12th of Elizabeth, with lands in Berwick, in exchange for lands in Whiffonset, in which family it remains, the right honorable George lord viscount Townshend being lord.

CASTLEACRE-

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. At the dissolution it was granted, May 9, in the 29th of Henry VIII. to Thomas, duke of Norfolk, and Thomas duke of Norfolk granted it in the 9th of Elizabeth to Robert Bozoun, esq. who conveyed it to Roger Townshend, esq. From the family of Townshend it came to sir John Chaplin, bart. and from him to Mr. Edward Glover, 1757, and his widow; sister of Charles Turner, esq. late collector of Lynn, is now in possession: Mr. Glover left an only daughter, the present Miss Glover, who is heiress to the estate.

The church of Barmer is a little pile, stands on a hill, and is covered with tiles; the chancel and the north isle are in ruins; it is dedicated to All Saints, and has a round tower or steeple.

There have been no institutions to this church since the year 1404, according to Parkin, and it is at present held as a curacy in the patronage of the earl of Orford. In the diocese register, the Rev. Dr. Charles Bagge is inserted as incumbent; 1760.

BASHAM, EAST. There are three towns of the name of Basham, or Barsham, that is, a ham by a bar, that is on, or by the hills: In Doomsday-book they are not distinguished by the appellation of East, North, and West, but included under the general name of Barsham.

In the same village, (Basham) as we are informed from Doomsday-book, Reiner held of the earl Warren, a lordship which belonged to Toke, in king Edward's reign.

WOOLTERTON'S MANOR. Reiner, who held this lordship under the earl Warren at the survey, was probably,

probably, Reiner de Grancourt, who gave to the priory of Castleacre, the patronage of this church, when Herbert was bishop of Norwich; his descendants either took the name of De Barsham, or a family of that name held it soon after.

Maurice de Barsham, in the 31st of Henry II. was fined 40l. because he gave his daughter in marriage to William de Bellemonte, and William was also fined 23l. 6s. 2d. because he married against the agreement that he had made to marry the daughter of Ralph de Gedding. This Maurice began his journey or pilgrimage to St. James of Compostella in Spain, on the feast of St. Dunstan, and gave to the priory of Castleacre for the prosperity of his journey, all his corn in his granges of East Basham, and West Basham, sixty-four sheep in his foldcourse of East, and sixteen in that of West Basham, with all his tenements which he held of them, if he should not return again.

After this it was possessed by Roger de Woolterton, who, with Alice his wife, conveyed by fine, in the 4th of Edward I. to John de Albinaco, and Joan his wife, a messuage, mill, and lands here. Roger sealed with, quarterly, or and azure, a bend, gules.

Thomas Gournay, esq. and John Hunt, son of William Hunt, of East Basham, confirmed to John Wode, of Briston, esq. and his heirs, &c. the manor of East Basham, formerly Roger de Woolterton's, and John de Bryston, of Bryston, esq. released to John Wode aforefaid, all his right in this manor, April 2, in the 18th of Henry VI. and Catherine, widow of William Hunt, released to him all her right.

This

This John Wode farmed the hundred of Gallow and Brotherton, of Elizabeth, queen confort of king Edward IV. in the 7th of that king.

After many possessors this estate came to the family of the Fermors, September 14, in the 11th of Henry VIII.

In the 24th of the said king, Sir Henry Fermor, knt. was high sheriff of Norfolk.

Thomas Fermor, Esq. was killed in Rising chace, by the Norfolk rebels, in the 2d of Edw. VI.—and Nicholas Fermor, esq. brother of this Thomas, was attainted for treasonable practices in coining, in the 19th of Elizabeth.

Thomas Fermor, esq. wasted in a great degree his estate, and sold many lordships.

William Fermor, esq. son and heir of Thomas, held his first court in the 17th of James I. on March 25, and married Anne, daughter of Robert Brooke, alderman of London, and sister of Sir Robert Brooke, of Blythborough, in Suffolk, by whom he had a daughter and heiress, Mary, who by marriage, brought the manors above-mentioned to James Calthorpe, esq. about the 3d of king Charles I. by the marriage articles dated then, January 17, it was entailed on the said James and Mary, and their heirs, and for default, on the heirs of James Calthorpe.

By the said Mary, he had issue, who died before her; his second wife was Catherine, daughter of Sir Edward Lewkner, of Denham, in Suffolk, by whom he had sir Christopher Calthorpe, knt. of the Bath, lord of this town, who by Dorothy his wife,
 B daughter

daughter of sir William Spring, of Pakenham in Suffolk, knt. father of Christopher Calthorpe, esq, who died in 1713, (before his father, who died in 1718. Feb. 7) leaving by Ann-Maria, daughter of William de Grey, esq. of Merton, Christopher Calthorpe, who died in November 1720, aged 13 years.

On the death of this youth, his two aunts, Elizabeth and Ann, daughters of sir Christopher Calthorpe, inherited the estate; Ann, being the wife of sir Thomas Le Strange, had a moiety of it in her right, and Elizabeth, who was single, at her death gave her part to the said sir Thomas, on whose death it came to sir Henry Le Strange, bart. of Hunstanton.

The Calthorpes of this town are descended from sir William Calthorpe, of Burnham-Thorpe, &c. by Elizabeth his second wife, daughter and coheir of sir Miles Stapleton, of Ingham in Norfolk.

Sir William Fermor built on this manor of Woolterton a very large and stately manor-house, or hall, of brick, in the reign of king Henry VIII. now very much decayed and ruinous. Some years past were found these remains of antiquity: over the great gate-house, leading into the court-yard, on the outside, are the kings arms of France and England, quarterly, supported by a lion and a griffin; * on the right side of it the arms of Fermor; argent, on a saltire sable, between 4 lions heads erased, gules, a martlet of the first between four bezants, on a chief azure, an anchor between two pallets, or, impaling argent, three pallets, gules, — and on the left, Fermor impaling, argent, a lion rampant, sable, Stapleton.

Below

* The arms of king Henry VIII.

Below these are two wild men, or giants, in two niches, one on each side of the gate, as janitors, armed with clubs. Over the door of the porch, leading into the hall, are the arms of France and England, with a griffin and a greyhound supporters, king Henry VII.'s arms, and Fermor, impaling.

In the bow window of the hall, this motto on several scrolls, *Audaces Fortuna Juvat*.—Howard, duke of Norfolk, quartering Brotherton, earl Warren, and Mowbray, in a garter.—Percy, earl of Northumberland, with his quarterings.—Lucy Poynings, Fitzpayne, Bryan, &c. in a garter.—Knevet quartering Cromwell, Tatteshale, Clifton, Basslet, &c. Also, argent, on a pale, sable, a conger's head, or Lucies, or Gascoine; and here is this date in the window, 1538, in which year it is probable the house was built. Also barry of fix, argent and gules.

In the great parlour window: Fermor impaling, argent, a saltire between four staples, sable, Wood.—The arms of the old lords of this manor; Fermor impaling Stapleton, Berney impaling Fermor.—Yelverton.—Fermor impaling Knevet (also Fermor impaling Fromond, p. chev. 3 de lys counterchanged) with his quarterings on the chimney-piece; also impaling Coote, &c. and this motto, *Fortior est qui se, quam qui fortissima vincit*. On a piece of oak, in the center of the cieling, are the *Quinque vulnera* carved, and round it, *The passion of God help me*.

In a room called the nursery, and above stairs, are several antique heads of men and women, in antique dresses, on the wainscot; under the heads of one man and woman, the arms of Fermor and Wood; under others, Fermor and Knevet, Yelverton and Fermor, and Berney and Fermor.

Lady Le Strange, of Gressenhall near East-Dereham, relict of sir Henry Le Strange, of Hunstanton, now possesses this estate.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. Sir Jaer de Rochford, of Stifkey, conveyed, by fine, to Ralph de Rochford his son, and Maud his wife, this lordship, in the 28th of Edw. III.

In the 22d of Henry VII. George Kirkham held a court here on Friday after the feast of St. George, who had the custody of the lands, &c. of Thomas Welby, lord, and under age.

Nicholas Mynne, esq. and Catherine his wife, granted this manor by fine, in the 4th of Elizabeth, to William Mynne, gent. quit of the heirs of Catherine; and on May 26, in the 13th of Elizabeth, Nicholas Mynne, of Walsingham Parva, released it to Thomas Fermor, esq. of East-Baslam; so it was joined to Woolterton's manor.

ST. MARTIN'S, OR EAST-HALL MANOR. In the 14th of Edward III. it was possessed by sir John de Bardolf, of Maple-Durham, held by him of the lord Bardolf, and he of the honor of Castleacre.

This manor became united with Woolterton's in the 25th of Edw. III.

Besides the lordships above-mentioned, part of this town of East-Baslam was a beruite, at the survey, to the Conqueror's manor of Fakenham, which was held by Harold, king of England, who was slain in battle.

BERNINGHAM'S MANOR, or KNOLLE'S and WALDGRAVE'S. John de Berningham, in the gift of Edward I. was lord of this fee.

Sir Richard Waldgrave, by deed, dated at Bures in Suffolk, on January 1st, in the 11th of Rich. II. sold and confirmed it to Augustine Keeling, &c.

In the 25th of Henry VI, March 3, John Hunt, of Swaffham in Norfolk, sells to John Wode the manor of Berningham for fifty marks; and on the 10th of the said month, Robert Mompynson, of Wisbich, and Catherine his wife, late wife of William Hunt, of East-Batham, enfeoffed John Wode, of Honingham, and Margery his wife, &c. in four messuages, four tofts, &c. called Berningham's, in this town, and Snoring, with the reversion of other messuages, held by John Lynge for life; and, at the said time, appointed Thomas Gurney, esq. their attorney, to deliver seisin to John Wode and Margery, and to Robert, son of the said John and Margery; and on the 10th of May, in the same year, John Hunt, of Swaffham-Market, son and heir of William Hunt, released to John Wode the said premises.

On the 28th of June, in the 30th of the said king, sir Thomas Kerdeston, &c. enfeoffed John Wode, &c. of the manor of Waldgrave; and on the 6th of March, in the 33d of that king, John Latham, master or custos of the hospital of the Holy Trinity of Pontefract, called Knolle's Alms-house, in Yorkshire, released to John Wode all his right in the manor of Berningham's; and thus Berningham's and Waldgrave's manor were united to that of Woolterton.

CHILD'S MANOR. This seems to have been a part of Waldgrave's manor, and was confirmed to Thomas Child in the 14th of Richard II.

William Leyre confirmed to Humfrey, duke of Gloucester, and Alianora his wife, and William Perkins, esq. this lordship, October 6, in the 11th of Henry VI. and the said William by his deed, dated October 20, in the said year, released all his right herein to the said duke; and sealed with, or, a fess dauncette, between eight billets ermin.

William Wake, of Holkham, confirmed to Richard Wake his brother, and Catherine his wife, all his tenement which he had of the gift of sir John Daubenys, with the lands, &c. in the 13th of Edward II.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and the Rev. Mr. William Pretheroe was presented to this vicarage in 1742, by sir Thomas Le Strange of Hunstanton, and Mrs. Elizabeth Calthorpe.

On the north side of the church, at the west end, is the steeple, with one bell, dedicated to St. Thomas; the church is covered with lead. Here were formerly several bells, which being taken out of the church, and put on ship board, were lost (as is said) on Hunstanton sands.

Against the north wall is a small mural monument, *In memory of Simon Lombe, A. M. for 43 years God's faithful minister of this parish, who died May 4th, 1689; and of Margaret his wife, daughter of Mr. Thomas Seggeswick, merchant of Norwich, both interred in the middle alley of this church. Erected by C. C. M. B.*

On

On the pavement of the chancel are several black-marble grave-stones.—*Barbara Strut*, second daughter of *Robert Strut*, of *Halley* in *Suffolk*, and *Grace* his wife, daughter of *Christopher Calthorpe*, of *Cockthorpe*, esq. died *May 14th*, 1714, *Æt.* 81. with the arms of *Strut*, sable, a chevron between three cross crosslets, fitchee, or.—*James Calthorpe*, esq. third son of *James Calthorpe*, esq. and *Catherine* his wife, died *January 19*, aged 73, *Æt.* 1717, with the arms of *Calthorpe*.—*Charles Calthorpe*, *Gent.* youngest son of *James Calthorpe*, esq. and *Catherine* his wife, died *November 8*, 1677, aged 27, with *Calthorpe's* arms. *Catherine*, second daughter of *Sir Edward Lewkner*, of *Denham* in *Suffolk*, *Knt.* second wife, and relict of *James Calthorpe*, of *East-Barsham*, Esq; who remained a widow 25 years, and died *November 17*, 1677, aged 61, with the arms of *Calthorpe*, impaling *Lewkner*, azure, three chevronells, argent.—Also one, *In memory of James Calthorpe*, Esq; late of *East-Barsham*, here interred, who died *April 19*, 1652, aged 48, with the arms of *Calthorpe* impaling *Fermor*, and *Calthorpe* impaling *Lewkner*.

Against the south wall of the present chancel, which is taken out of the nave of the church, is a very sumptuous monument of alabaster, black marble, &c. with the effigies of a woman in her winding sheet, as raising herself with her left hand out of her coffin, her right hand and eyes elevated in a posture of adoration, and on the coffin, *Come Lord Jesu quickly*. Over her are two arches, supported by pillars of the Dorick order; in one of them is an angel offering her a crown of glory, and in the other an angel offering her a crown of laurel; and, above these, an angel as sounding the last trumpet. On the cornish of the monument are two effigies, one representing *Wisdom* or *Knowledge*, with the sun, the other with a *Dove*, representing *Innocency*. On the basis of the monu-

ment, the arms of Calthorpe, and, *James Calthorpe, Esq; dedicates this monument to the pious memory of Mary his wife, &c. daughter and sole heir of William Fermour, Esq; and of Ann his wife, daughter of Robert Brook, late alderman of London, by whom he had issue two sons, who died —, 1640.*

	Died.	Aged.
Andrew Fermour - -	February 1, 1627	} 5 years. 18 days.
William Fermour - -	Novem. 24, 1635	
Fermour Calthorpe, senior	March 2, 1635	
Fermour Calthorpe, junior	December 1, 1637	

This church in some writings is called the Holy Trinity of East-Basham.

Thomas Wright, vicar, S. T. B. Sir Christopher Calthorpe, lord and patron, by his will in 1718 gives to him during his life and continuance to perform divine service here, and after his death, or remove, to the vicar of East-Basham, and his successors for ever, that house, outhouses, yards, and orchards, in East-Basham, in which the said Mr. Wright now lives, together with the feed of the church-yard, and vicarage tithes of all my lands in West-Basham, he and they answering to the vicar of West-Basham 5s. per ann. being, by ancient determination in chancery, desired to be by custom the dues to him only for the same.

BASHAM, NORTH. Hugo had of the Earl Warren a caracute of land, held by a freeman in king Edward's reign, for a manor in this village.

WAUNCY'S MANOR, OR SOUTHALL. Hugh, who was lord of West-Basham, was ancestor of the family of de Wauci, and held this lordship at the survey under the Earl Warren.

The family of Suthale, or Southwell, had some interest herein under the Wauci. In the reign of Edw. III. it came to Edmund Gurney, by the marriage of Catherine, daughter of sir William Wauci, and remained in that family.

BRANCH'S MANOR. This was the principal manor, and held by a family that gave name to it, under the Wauci's; Ralph Branch was lord, as appears from the register of Wallingham, and Richard was his son, but *sans date*.

In the 26th of Henry III. a fine was levied between William Braunche and Joan his wife, impediments, Thomas Trivet and Alianore his wife, querents.

This Thomas is said to have been a knight, one of the king's justices, and father of Nicholas Trivet, the historian, who wrote the reigns of several kings of England. In the 57th of Henry III. he was a judge of Norwich, and in the 7th of Edw. I. a commissioner to enquire after the authors of the quarrel between the monks and citizens of Norwich, which begun in king Henry's time; but still it appears that the family of Branch had an interest in this manor.

By an inquisition taken at Norwich, April 1, in the 16th of James I. Philip Russell, esq. was found to die possessed of this manor.

This family is derived from Thomas Russell, of Littleport in the Isle of Ely, whose son William had Henry Russell, of West Rudham in Norfolk, Gent. who by Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of John Bachelor, of West Rudham, and Isabel his wife,

wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Ferrers, of the said town; left Henry, his son and heir, who by Elizabeth, daughter of — Wallis, had William Russell, of West Rudham, Gent. and by Agnes his wife, daughter of Thomas Walpole, of Houghton, esq. he had Thomas Russell, his son and heir, William and Edmund, which Edmund died September 13, 1589, and by Catherine his wife, daughter of Nicholas Bowry, of Stone in Hertfordshire, was father of Thomas, his son and heir, who died without issue, and of Philip Russell, esq; abovementioned, who died in 1617, and was buried (as his elder brother Thomas was) in the church of North Basham, leaving by Catherine his wife, daughter of John Walpole, of Houghton, esq. Thomas aforesaid, who died without issue.

William Rootley, esq. who was high sheriff of Norfolk in 1722, and his son, sold it to the honorable Horace Walpole, esq. and his son, the present lord Walpole of Woolterton, now possesses it.

CHURCHE'S MANOR. Godfrey de Levingdale, of East-Basham, by deed *sans date*, gave these lands to Maud Atte Church.

CALEY'S MANOR. William Caley had this manor in Edward IV's time. Thomas Sefoule, by his will in the 4th of Elizabeth, appears to be possessed of it. Richard Percy soon after held it, and so was united to Branch's manor.

Mr. John Borage, of North-Basham, gave by will, dated October 27, 1636, to the master, fellows, and scholars of Clare-Hall in Cambridge, where he was some time a scholar, a rent charge of 35l. per ann. out of his messuages, lands and tenements, in North
and

and West-Basbam, towards the maintenance of a fellow, to be held only until the non-regency, or five years after the said fellow's commencing master of arts; capable of being elected when he shall be sophister of two years standing in the said hall; to be chose out of the founder's name and kindred in that hall, or in any other college in Cambridge, as shall be found capable thereof, and for want thereof, any Norfolk or Norwich man may be elected.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints, and was in the patronage of the Braunch's, lords in the reign of Edward I.

The present rector of North-Basbam is the Rev. Mr. John Dowling, presented in 1762 by lord Walpole of Woolterton.

Joseph Lawson died rector in 1643. There is a very remarkable entry in the parish register, under Mr. Lawson's own hand, as follows:

*Deo Gratias,
Quod Nos Satias,
Bonis Rusticorum,
Contra Voluntatem Eorum.*

Against the north wall of this church is a mural monument, with a shield—Quarterly, argent, a lion rampant, in a bordure, gules, in the 1st and 4th Russell, in the 2d and 3d or, a chevron, gules, and a chief vairy, or, and azure, and impaling Walpole. *In memory of Phil. Russell, Esq; who married Catherine, daughter of John Walpole, of Houghton, Esq; and dyed December 26, 1617, aged 66.*—The said arms are carved on the wainscot in the manor-house.

On

On the pavement of the chancel, a grave-stone in memory of *Joseph Thomson, rector, who died in 1723.*

BASHAM, WEST. Hugo de Wauci held this manor of the Earl Warren, and it remained with his descendents till the 47th of Edw. III, when it came to Edmund Gurney by marriage.

This estate was long in the family of the Gurneys. Edmund died seized of it in the year 1641, and his son Henry sold it to the family of Calthorpe, From the Calthorpes it came to Dr. Charles Morley, M. D. who was lord in 1720, and his son, the late Charles Morley, esq. of Basham, left it to his nephew, John Balders, esq. the present lord.

This family of de Gourney was of great antiquity, and lords of Harpley. Matthew de Gourney lived in the reign of Henry II. and married Rose, daughter and heir of Reginald de Burnham, William de Gourney was his son and heir, and had sir John de Gourney, who was in arms against king Henry III. and one of the same name was lord in the beginning, and 27th of Edw. I. and John de Gourney was rector, patron, and lord also, of Harpley, in the 31st of the said king; and in the 9th of Edw. II. settled on John de Gourney, his nephew, (son of Catherine) and Jane his wife, the manor of Harpley, remainder to William and Edmund, brothers of John. This Edmund was he, who by the marriage of Catherine, daughter of sir William, and sister and heir of sir Edmund de Wauci, brought this lordship of West-Basham into the Gurney family.

The arms of Gurney were argent, a cross engrailed, gules, and impaled the arms of Wauci, gules, three

three dexter hands erect, argent; also Calthorpe, Heydon, Lovell, Holdick, Blennerhasset and Lewknor; also they impaled Jernegan, and fable, a chevron between three leopards heads, &c. — probably Wentworth.

WILKIN'S MANOR. Ralph, or Robert, son of Robert Wilkin, and his tenants, held in the reign of Henry III. one knight's fee of the earl Warren, in this town.

Thomas Fermor possessed it, with messuages and lands in West and East Basham, with the advowson of the church of this town, in the 12th of Elizabeth; and on the 16th of April, 1603, John Kemp, of Antingham St. Mary in Norfolk, esq. released to Thomas Fermor, esq. and William Fermor, esq. all his right in it. William Fermor, esq. son of Thomas, was lord of it in 1627; and a pardon of alienation of it was granted, 17th of November, 8th of king Charles I. to Henry Calthorpe, esq. and Valentine Pell, esq. for taking it from William Fermor, by fine, levied in Hillary term, in the 3d of Charles I.

Sir L'Estrange Calthorpe, knt. and serjeant at law, was lord in 1675, son of Philip Calthorpe, of Gressenhall, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, who by Ann his wife, daughter of Arthur Turner, of Parndon-Magna in Essex, serjeant at law, had James Calthorpe, esq. drowned at sea in 1691, and left by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of James Cooper, and sister of sir William Cooper of London, Elizabeth, daughter and heir, married to Charles Morley, M. D. whose son Cha. Morley, esq. married the daughter of Richard Dashwood, esq. of Cockley-Cley near Swaffham, and dying without issue, left it to his nephew, John Balders, esq. the present lord.

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. The patronage of this church is in John Balders, esq. who on the decease of the Rev. Morgan Powell, formerly of Catherine-Hall, Cambridge, an ingenious and deserving man, presented the Rev. Mr. Wm. Fisher, vicar of South Creak, to this vicarage in 1774.

In the chancel, a grave-stone with a brass plate:
*Caducum hoc æternat Marmor Edwardus Gourney, filius
 et heres Tho. Gourney Armig. et Marthaæ filiaæ Edvi.
 Lewkenor de Denham, in Com. Suff. Militis, obiit Aug.
 1641.*

On a black marble stone: *Here lyeth the body of
 Sr. L'Estrange Calthorp, Kt. serjeant at law to king
 Charles II. Departed this life April 5, 1678.*

BROOMSTHORPE, or Brunsthorpe, so called as seated by a burn, or bourn. This villiage was given (as we take it) to the abbey of Ely, by Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, in the reign of the Saxon king Edgar. At the survey it was in the tenure, and accounted for as the lands of St. Audrey, or Adeldrede, the foundress of that monastery.

This estate was long in the family of the Cockets. In the year 1570, Thomas Cocket, esq. bought it of Thomas, nephew to sir William Fermor.

Abigail, daughter and heir of Froximere Cocket, esq. brought this lordship by marriage to John Walpole, esq. second son of Calybut Walpole, esq. of Houghton, who dying December 8, 1654, was buried at Tatterset, and left three daughters and co-heirs; Elizabeth, who married to Edward Pepys, esq. had one daughter, who died in 1665, and her husband in 1663; and the said Elizabeth dying September

tember 10, 1668, was buried by her husband and daughter in the church of Tatterset. By her will, she gave her right in this lordship to her two sisters, Bridget and Susan. John Hare, esq. purchasing Bridget's right in 1669, became sole lord, and left it to his son, John Hare, esq. Richmond herald, who, in 1698, sold it to Philip Bedingfield, esq. who married his sister Elizabeth. Philip was son of Edmund Bedingfield, rector of Bishops-Cleeve in Gloucestershire, son of Robert, and brother to sir Thomas Bedingfield, of Darsham in Suffolk; and on December 24, 1615, it was sold by the aforesaid Philip to colonel Horace Walpole, a younger son of sir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, for 2200l. and an annuity of 60l. clear, for life.

Here is only the manor-house remaining, which the colonel died seized of, October 17, 1717, and the earl of Orford is now lord. Colonel Horace Walpole built some additional rooms in front, but they have been pulled down lately, having been long out of use, and it is now a farm-house.

Here is no church, and it appears to have been destroyed before the reign of queen Elizabeth.

DUNTON with DOUGHTON, or Doketon.—Dunton, so called as seated on a hill, was a beruite to the king's manor of Fakenham at the survey, belonging to Harold in the Confessor's time, and when he was king of England. In this account Doketon, or Docton, is included as an hamlet, or part of the manor of Dunton, and so not mentioned in the survey, or Doomsday-book.

King Henry II. is said to have given this town, with Doughton and Kettleston, to Ralph de Hauvile,

to be held by *petit serjeanty*, the keeping of the king's hawks or falcons; and in another record it is said, by keeping of two ger-falcons for the king. This Ralph was a knight, and had a son sir Ralph, who wrote himself sometimes De Hauvile, and sometimes De Dunton, according to the practice and custom of that age.

In the 3d of king John, sir Ralph had 10l. per ann. towards keeping the king's hawks; and in the 2d of Henry III. Henry de Hauvile was lord, son of sir Ralph; in which year Ralph de Jernemue (Yarmouth) conveyed to him by fine all his right in the lairage of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincoln; and in the following year, Gilbert and Ralph de Hauvile had a mandate to bring the king's ger-falcons in their custody safe to court, signed by Hubert de Burgo the chief justice.

Hugh de Dunton impleaded, in the 34th of that king, Henry de Hauvile for taking his swans from his pool in Doughton, and carrying them to Dunton; and it was adjudged that he should make satisfaction, and permit Hugh to have the fishery in the water of Doughton, from Hugo's mill to the mill of Henry.

In the 30th of Edward III. sir James Hauvile was with the king in Gascoine, and had letters of protection, and about this time is said to have sold this lordship to sir Robert Tyffour.

Thomas Fermor, of East-Basham, esq. was in possession of this manor in the time of queen Elizabeth, and on September 8, 1558, sold it to Edward Coke, attorney-general to the queen, afterwards lord chief justice, from whom it descended to the late lord

lord Leicester; since whose decease the whole estate, containing upwards of seventeen hundred acres, most of it rich and fertile land, has been lett upon an article for twenty-one years, at the rent of 68ol, 12s. 8d. per ann. It is supposed to be worth a rent of 12ool. or thereabouts. The article is at present contested, and the validity of it doubtful.

In the chancel a marble grave-stone, *In memory of Matthew Lancaster, of Dunton, Gent. eldest son and heir of Matthew Lancaster, descended from John Lancaster, the first of that race in England, and first founder of Lancaster, from whom issued fifty, or more, Knights, Esqrs. and Gentlemen of Quality, some dignified by their honorable marriages into noble families. the rest, or most of them, in their several marriages, equallizing, if not exceeding their own rank and pedigree, died ———, 1658.*

It is a little extraordinary we should know no more of this illustrious Lancaster than what is recited in the above pompous inscription; especially as he lived in times of public commotion and public danger, during the commonwealth of England, and died only two years before the restoration of Charles II.

The church of Dunton is a rectory, but in the nature of a donative, the present rector, the Rev. Christopher Selby, rector of Rougham, presented by lord Lovell (afterwards earl of Leicester) in 1736, receiving only a certain stipend, and that very small. Was this *modus*, if we may call it so, abolished, as these *modi* or *modusses* have been lately scouted and set aside by the house of peers, the *law lords*, particularly lord Camden and lord Mansfield, being strong against them and their validity, this rectory of Dunton would become one of the most consider-

able and valuable livings in the county of Norfolk. 'Tis wonderful, indeed, the clergy of Norfolk sit down so tamely by these arbitrary encroachments upon the church: this is certainly the age to exert themselves in, and to recover their long lost rights: there is no sense in the forbearance of receiving half-a-crown for what is worth five pounds, especially when the laity are so ready to harass them with actions of non-residence, formed upon an old obsolete act of Henry VIII. which neither judge nor jury understand. For can any thing be more absurd or ridiculous than to prosecute a clergyman for not residing on a living where he has no house to reside in? or any thing more oppressive, tyrannical, and savage, than to compel a clergyman by threats of prosecution to build a house where one was wanting, who has always attended the duties of his parish, Sunday and weekly, from a distance of no more than four miles in the neighbourhood, and this perhaps in the decline of life? Yet we know that such things have happened in the memory of us all. We have been told that a new parsonage-house has been lately erected at Lyng, near Lenwade bridge, by the present worthy and ingenious rector, the Rev. Mr. Baldwin, late of Trinity college, Cambridge, perhaps his sole inducement might be to prevent litigious and malicious people, men of bad heads and base hearts, from bringing actions upon the old statute of Henry VIII. against him: for this at present remains a formidable battery against the church, and is always ready to be opened and played upon it by the engineers of Westminster-hall, when properly taken into pay.

FAKENHAM, at the compiling of Doomsday-book, was in the king's hands. Harold was lord of it in king Edward's reign, and also when he was king

king of England; but being slain in the battle of Hastings, it came to William the Conqueror. Several beruites belonged to it, or it extended into these following townships, &c. Althorpe, Thorpland, Stanhoe, Stibbard, Creak, Baslam, Snoring, Kettleston, and Pudding-Norton.

Probably the river on which this town stands, might, in the Saxon age, be called Fa; Ken always denotes a stream of water or river: thus, Kennet, Kenford; and frequently occurs, as Ham does for a dwelling. There are two towns in Suffolk called Fakenham, and Fakenhurst in Kent.

Some ancient records say, that William II. called Rufus, gave this great lordship to Hugh Capel, to be held by two knights fees, and that it descended to his son Hugh, and grandson Walter, and so to his daughters. Others say that his name was Hugh Symired, that he was enfeoffed of it by king Henry I. and that on the death of Walter Symired his son, it reverted or escheated to the crown, and king John granted it to William de Albini, earl of Arundel, who was lord about the 7th of that king.

In the 25th of Henry III. Hugh earl of Arundel was summoned to restore to the king this lordship, as an escheat belonging to the Normans.

King Edward II. on the 11th of October, in his 3d year, gave it to Gilbert earl of Clare, who dying without issue in the 7th of the said king, it was granted in the following year to David de Strathbogie, earl of Athol, with the advowson, till the lands of the said earl in Scotland could be restored to him.

On the 8th of February, in the 5th of Edw. III. Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk, had a grant of it; but soon after, about the 6th of that king, Isabel, queen dowager, who died seised of it in his 32d year.

King Edward III. in his 46th year, June 25th, gave this town to his son John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, and on his death it came to his son Henry IV. king of England, and duke of Lancaster, and continued in the crown till granted, about the reign of king Charles I. to the Fermors of Basham-East, or the Calthorpes.

Sir Christopher Calthorpe died seised of it, and by his heirs it came to the L'Estranges, sir Henry L'Estrange, bart. being the late lord.

Sir Henry Spelman is surpris'd to find that a *salina*, or salt-pit, should in Doomsday-book be mentioned as a part of this lordship, being nine miles from the sea; but it is to be observed, that this *salina* lay in some place on the sea belonging to Harold, and after to him when king: thus Necton, a town above twenty miles from the nearest part of the sea, had a *salina*, which lay at Lynn, Harold was lord of Necton.

In the 37th of Henry VIII. lands here belonging to Hempton priory were granted by the king, September 9th, to sir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife.

The church is a large regular pile, having a nave, a north and south isle covered with lead, and a chancel covered with tiles; at the west a tower with eight bells, and is dedicated to St. Peter.

Round

Round the cover of the font is, *Orate pro aia. Ade Powryte, et Alicie uxoris ejus, et omnium benefactor. suor. qui istud opus fieri fecerunt in honore Dei omnipotentis. Amen.* On the eight sides of the stone basin, or font, are several religious emblems, viz. of an angel, ox, lion, and eagle, to represent the four evangelists; also that of the Trinity, a cross, crown of thorns, the king's arms; also on the pillar of it, the letter H or L, in an old character, and a crown over it, to represent it as being in the dutchy of Lancaster, or built in king Henry the VIth's reign.

On a black marble grave-stone, with the arms of Calthorpe in a lozenge: *Catherine, 3d daughter of Sir Christopher Calthorpe, of East-Barsham, Knt. of the Bath, and dame Dorothy, died 19th of September, 1717, aged 47.*—Near this a grave-stone, *In memory of James Calthorpe, Esq. eldest son of Sir Christopher, born June 9, 1673, died June 24, 1696.*—Also on a grave-stone; quarterly, Calthorpe and Leukenor, argent, three chevronels, azure, impaling Spring, argent, on a chevron, ingrailed between three mascles, gules, as many cinquefoils, or: *In memory of Sir Christopher Calthorpe, Knt. of the Bath, and the last survivor of 68 knights, companions of that honorable order, eldest son of James Calthorpe, and Katherine his wife, daughter of Sir Edward Lukenor, of Denham in Suffolk, Knt. he died Febr. 7, 1717-18, aged 75 years.*—Adjoining, one, *In memory of dame Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Spring, of Pakenham in Suffolk, Bart. wife of Sir Christopher Calthorpe, from the 19th of September, 1664, to the 7th of February, 1715; mother of 14 children, of which six daughters, and all the sons, deceased before her.*—Against the north wall is a mural monument, with the arms of Calthorpe. Opposite to this monument, on the south side of the isle: *Lyeth the body of Christopher Calthorpe, Esq.*
C 3
grandson

grandson of Sir Christopher Calthorpe, Knt. of the Bath. The loss of a youth of such promising parts and ingenuity, and the last heir male of this elder branch of that ancient family, can never be enough lamented. He died of a violent fever at the school of St. Edmund's, Bury, the 6th day of November, 1720, aged thirteen years and one day,

The following elegant Latin inscription is on an altar tomb in the church-yard, on the south side: *Hic jacet Johannes, quem prope dilecta sua Catherina Wortley, quos amor et ecclesia conjunxit; separavit, et rerum, et hominum edax, tempus, et tumulus rapuit. Hanc anno Domini 1665, ætate integram. Hunc anno Dni. 1695, senectute fractum vicit, facilis victoria. Veniet, veniet tamen dies, quæ raptam dabit, quæ victum, invictum reddet. Vis plura lector, scias honestis ortas parentibus, et quondam hujus loci, nunc beatioris incolæ.*

We find the church porch to be used as a magazine for the hundred of Gallow in 1602; and on the 23d of June, in that year, twenty-seven pounds of powder, twenty-nine pounds, and twenty-four pounds to be lodged there, with quantities of matches, pick-axes, axes, &c.

Fakenham is now a large village, and a market town: the market is held on a Thursday, and the merchants from the sea-port town of Wells, in its neighbourhood, constantly attend to buy corn of the farmers for exportation. It is a neat town, and well built. There is a court-house, which is now used as a school-room; and occasionally concerts of music are held in it: it was intended for a sessions-house, the quarter-sessions of the peace being formerly held alternately at Fakenham and Walsingham, but of late years at Walsingham and Holt.

The

The master and fellows of Trinity college, Cambridge, are patrons of the living, which is a rectory of considerable value. The present rector is the Rev. Mr. Moore Meredith, fellow of Trinity, who was presented August 30, 1770.

The river Wensum, which flows through the meadows of this town, has been supposed to be capable of being made navigable to Norwich, and of course to Yarmouth, and some meetings have been held for that purpose; but whether through the contending interests of the proprietors of estates through which the river glides, or the great expence attending the work, all attempts to carry the scheme into execution have unfortunately been dropped; and this is the more surprising, after the success of the great designs projected and finished by the present duke of Bridgewater, to his immortal honour, near Manchester, and in other parts of this kingdom.

ALTHORPE, was at the survey a beruite belonging to the king's manor of Fakenham.

This is now a small hamlet, lying about two miles to the north-east of Fakenham, and continues part of that lordship at this time.

The inhabitants pay both great and small tithes to the rector of Fakenham, and come to that church; formerly we find there was a chapel dedicated to All Saints belonging to it, standing in 1419.

In Edward I's reign, here were thirty houses with their families, and they baptised and buried here.

THORPLAND. This also at the survey was a beruite belonging to the king's lordship of Fakenham.

This little hamlet lies about two miles north of Fakenham; and we meet with old evidences mentioning Thorpland-hall, a small lordship, depending on that of Fakenham.

In a record of the 10th of Henry IV. it appears, that by an inquisition taken before the escheator, sir John Le Strange, knt, it was found, that Roger de Lenne gave a messuage, one hundred acres of land, ten of meadow and pasture, and 10s. rent, with a fold-course in Fakenham, Thorpland, and Althorpe, to be amortised to Thorpland chapel, on condition to find a chaplain to pray for the soul of the said Roger, which was done (as was said) without the king's licence.

Afterwards the Fermors possessed Thorpland-hall, and Thomas Fermor, esq. held it in fee-farm of Q. Elizabeth, as part of the dutchy of Lancaster, as did sir Christopher Calthorpe, who lived here in 1680, as appears from several of his letters here dated, and so came to the L'Estranges.

The chapel of Thorpland was dedicated to St. Thomas.

On the 30th of July, in the 9th of king James I. the king grants to Francis Morice, of Westminster, esq. and Francis Philips, of London, Gent. this chapel, then a barn, in the tenure of Jerome Alexander, Gent. and in the said year, November 28, they conveyed it, with half an acre of land whereon it stood, to Robert Bumpstead, of Wallingham Parva.

The inhabitants of this hamlet go to Fakenham church, and pay great and small tithes to the rector.

In the reign of Edward I. it is said there were ninety parishioners in this hamlet, when there was a chaplain to serve the cure, but no sepulture or baptism belonged to it.

FULMONDESTON, with CROXTON, was the lordship of William earl Warren, and held of him by Walter Toke, a great Saxon thane, who held it in the reign of the Confessor, and was dispossessed at the conquest

The family of the Grancourts were early enfeoffed of this manor. Walter, son of William de Grancourt, was lord in the 11th year of king John, when he gave to the king a good hawk, to be exempted from being put on any assize, except between barons. William de Bellemont gave to the king sixty marks, to have the custody of the said Walter de Grancourt, who was indicted for killing a man,

William de Grancourt was lord in the 45th of Henry III. and in the 52d of that king, was a witness to several writs, (being then chief baron of the Exchequer) dated November 21, directed to the sheriff of Norfolk, and several other sheriffs, reciting, that whereas the king had great occasion for money, by reason of his foreign and domestic affairs, that as he would avoid corporal punishment, loss of his goods, and the king's anger, he should speedily pay four hundred marks of the money, due on the summons of the last *Iter* of the justices in that county, otherwise he should know that the king would chastise his neglect in such a manner, that his punishment should teach others how to perform the king's commands.

Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, &c. in the 46th of Edward III. died possessed of it, and left
two

two daughters and coheirs, Eleanor, afterwards wife to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, 6th son to king Edward III. and Mary, wife afterwards to Henry earl of Derby, who was king of England by the name of Henry IV. which Thomas, duke of Gloucester, died lord in the 21st of Richard II. when it should have descended to Edmund Stafford, earl of Stafford, who married Ann, one of the two daughters, and at length sole heir to the said duke, but Henry earl of Derby, &c. possessed it in right of Mary his wife, and king Henry V. and VI. were also lords. It remained in the crown till king Richard III. in his first year, granted it to Henry Stafford, duke of Bucks, on July 13th, who being soon after beheaded (as a rebel against the said king) at Salisbury, it was again in the crown.

On the 7th of March, in the 1st of king James I. sir Edward Coke had a grant to farm it at 37l. per ann. and the manor has been some time in that family, the earl of Leicestershire being the late lord.

The church of Fulmondeston is dedicated to St. Mary. In the reign of Edward I. the prior of Cattleacre had the patronage of this rectory, with the chapel of Croxton.

The patronage of this living is at present in the master and fellows of Bennet or Corpus Christi college in Cambridge. Dr. John Barnardiston, the late master of Bennet, was presented by the college to it in the year 1759.

There is a manor in this parish of Fulmondeston independent of the manor in the Holkham family, belonging to John Brown, esq. of Fulmondeston.

CROXTON. In the reign of king Edward, this was a village held by Toke, who being ejected, it was granted at the conquest to the earl Warren.

It had always the same lords as Fulmondeston: William de Grancourt held it in the 3d of Henry III. and in that year William, son of Roger de Huntingfeld, gave lands here to the priory of Castleacre, on his founding the monastery of Mendham in Norfolk.

It is now, and has been for many years, accounted as an hamlet to Fulmondeston, and the earl of Leicester died lord of it.

On May 17, in the 3d year of Edward VI. sir William Fermor, knt. and sir Richard Fulmondeston had a grant of the advowson of Fulmondeston and Croxton.

The chapel, or church, is a single pile, with a chancel covered with thatch, without a steeple, and dedicated to St. John the Baptist; and the prior of Castleacre, as patron of the rectory, was patron of it.

The following very elegant inscription is on the north wall of the chancel, upon a mural monument of white marble, with this shield; argent, a cross, ingrailed gules; crest, a buck trippant, proper, with a laurel branch in his mouth, and ———
 ‘ P. M. S. Daniel Green, A. M. Coll. S. S. Trin.
 ‘ apud Cantab. quondam socius nuper eccles. de
 ‘ Fulmondestun cum Croxton, annos plus quadragin-
 ‘ ta rector, omni literarum genere exornatus, singu-
 ‘ lis provinciæ quadruplicis muneribus, in officinis
 ‘ jure suis præclare functus, sacerdotis, pædologi,
 ‘ mariti

‘ mariti et patris, posteris imitandum. Maximis in
 ‘ Deum pietatis, et optimis in hominem virtutis, li-
 ‘ matum officiis edidit exemplar. Et cum indigno
 ‘ de mundo bene diu meruisset, magno perdignus
 ‘ honore, in cœlum, alumnos, conjugem et sobolem,
 ‘ charus, cœlestem, spretis mundanis benedictionem
 ‘ obnixè precatus, ultimum amicis dixit vale, et mi-
 ‘ gravit defletus. Interim autem Deo clementissimo,
 ‘ ingrato orbi et terræ fœcundæ, ad resurrectionem,
 ‘ tandem aliquando sperans meliora, animam hu-
 ‘ millime, famam provide, corpus libenter, foris jux-
 ‘ ta depositum, commisit, impertivit, reliquit, p.
 ‘ J. H. S. A°. Dom. 1700. Ætat. 71.’

CLIPSTON. This was an hamlet to Fulmondeston, held also by Toke, and after by the earl Warren. Walter de Grancourt was lord in the 3d of Hen. III.

HELHOUGHTON, or HELGHETON. Part of this town was a beruite to the king's manor of Rainham, farmed of the king, at the survey, by Godric.

HALGATUN, as this town was wrote, is compounded of Hal, or AL and Ga, which signifies in Saxon, a town, all by the water.

This lordship remained in the crown till king Stephen gave it to William de Cheyney. The said king afterwards granted it to the Hauviles.

It was possessed by Roger Townshend, formerly by sir John Snoring, knt. It came to the Townshends probably on the marriage of the heiress of Hauvile, with the manor also of Rainham, and sir Roger Townshend died possessed of it in 1551: in this family it continues, the lord viscount Townshend being the present lord.

ST. FAITH'S, or HORSHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the 9th of Edward II. the prior of St. Faith's was found to have a lordship here.

King Henry VIII. in his 35th year, December 3, granted it to Robert Townshend, serjeant at law, and Gyles Townshend, esq. together with the appropriated rectory of this church, and the advowson of the vicarage; and on the 10th of that month they conveyed it to sir Roger Townshend, with the patronage of the vicarage, in which family it remains.

A family who assumed their name from the town, was early enfeoffed of this, under the earl Warren. Alan de Helgheton held part of a fee of the earl, about the 18th of Henry III. and in the said reign, Walter Bernardiston had the third part of a fee.

Sir William de Kerdeston died lord in the 36th of Edward III.

The principal manor (late Payne's) was in the Townshends; and in the reign of Henry VIII. sir Roger Townshend possessed it. It came, probably, into the family by the marriage of sir Thomas Townshend, in the reign of Hen. VI. with Agnes, daughter of William Payne.

The church is dedicated to All Saints.

Lord viscount Townshend is patron of this vicarage, with Rainham St. Martin, consolidated 1748; and the present vicar, the Rev. Charles Allen, formerly of Trinity college, Cambridge, was presented to this church by the late lord Townshend in the year 1748.

HEMPTON. William earl Warren was lord of this village at the survey.

The Britons called many rivers by the name of Anton, or Avon, and it is probable that the river by which this town stands was also so called: and the Saxons retaining many of the said names, called them by corruption, or contraction, An and Han, thus Hampshire, in Doomsday-book, is wrote Hantshire, and thus South-Hampton, &c.

Roger de St. Martin was lord in the reign of Henry I.

In the 3d of Edward III. sir John Bardolf and his parceners were found to hold one fee in this town, Waterden, Baslam, &c. In the said reign, Thomas de Mileham is said to have bought a little manor here, which by the marriage of his daughter and heir, came to William Durrant, esq.

John de Woolterton, of Baslam, &c. aliened in the 1st of Richard II, the manor of Hempton, with lands in Waterden, to the prior of Damsend.

On the 9th of September, in the 37th of Henry VIII. that king granted the prior's manor, with lands in Tostrees, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, Pudding-Norton, &c. to sir William Fermor and the lady Catherine his wife. Thomas Fermor, esq. his nephew, held it in the 6th of Edw. VI. in capite, and sold it to Mr. Richard Benson, together with the priory.

A church, dedicated to St. Andrew, was standing in the 12th of Henry VII. and was a rectory appropriated to the priory.

In the 4th of Edw. I. Roger de St. Martin impleaded the prior, on account of the patronage of this church, and the prior pleaded that William de St. Martin gave it to the priory.

HEMPTON PRIORY, was at first an hospital, and afterwards a priory, founded by Roger de St. Martin, in the reign of king Henry I. for black canons of the order of St. Austin, and dedicated to St. Stephen. In the 2d year of king John, the archdeacon of Worcester (probably John de Brancafter) gave a palfrey to the king, for a fair to be held yearly, on Tuesday in Whitfun week, for the profit and use of the brethren of the hospital of St. Stephen, (as then called) by the causey of Fakenham; which fair is held at this time on Hempton Green, and is a considerable one.

There are two great fairs annually held on Hempton Green, one on Whitfun-Tuesday, and the other on the 22d of November; in the latter of which great herds of Scots lean cattle are exposed to sale, which are bought up by the farmers to be fed and fatted upon their turnips, and are afterwards drove to Smithfield market in London, to supply the metropolis. This fair was first held in the 14th of Edward I.

John occurs prior about the 15th, and Richard occurs prior in the 17th and 28th of Henry VI. when, on the feast-day of the conception of the blessed virgin, he, with the convent, granted lands in Tostrees, under the common seal of the priory, in the chapter-house; which was of an oblong form, (of red wax) as most religious seals, and the image of St. Stephen standing in an arch, between two tapers, with this legend round it; *Sigillum Commune Sancti*

Sancti Stephani de Hempton; and under this the prior, in an arch, kneeling.

The scite of this priory, with the rectory appropriated, and the manor, was granted (as before-mentioned) by king Henry VIII. to sir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife; and Thomas Fermor, his nephew, conveyed them to Richard Benson, Gent. in the 14th of Elizabeth, and Benson to Matthew Gosnald, Gent. and he left it in jointure to his wife. Henry Gosnald, his son, sold the reversion to sir Thomas Holland, of whom Nicholas Timperly, Gent. bought it.

George lord viscount Townshend is the present lord.

HOUGHTON, so called from its situation, which signifies High Town, was a beruite to the earl Warren's manor of Rudham. It is also called Houghton near Harpley, to distinguish it from Houghton, near Walsingham, or in the Dale, in North Greenhoe; and Houghton on the Hill, in South Greenhoe.

From the family of Cheyneys it came by marriage to the Belets, and seems to be held under them first by the De Haveltons, or Houghtons, and after by the Walpoles.

This ancient family of Walpole take their name from the town of Walpole in Marshland, in Norfolk, where they were enfeoffed of lands belonging to the see of Ely. Joceline de Walpole was living at Walpole St. Peter in the reign of Richard I. and in the 1st of king John held the sixth part of a fee in Wifbich, with half a knight's fee in Walpole, Walton, and Hackbich, with one hundred acres of marsh
land

land in Wisbich, (paying 10s. rent per ann.) of the bishop of Ely, and 6s. 2d. rent in salt; and Adam de Walpole paid the same rent in salt for lands, &c. Ralph, son of Joceline, and Roger his brother, held a virgate and an half in Walpole, paying 5s. 4d. and twenty-six combs of salt, rent per ann. to the bishop; and Adam de Walpole held half a virgate in Walpole, paying 12s.

Reginaldus de Walpole, who lived in the reign of Henry I. seems to be lineal ancestor of the present family, father of Richard de Walpole, who married Emma, daughter of Walter de Havelton, or Houghton, son of William de Havelton, (who was lord of this town) where this family of Walpole resided after the marriage; and Henry de Houghton had an interest here about the end of Henry III's reign

From Reginaldus descended sir John de Walpole, knt. who in the 14th of Henry III. on the king's sailing into Brittany, had letters of protection, being in the family or retinue of that king, was, by Isabel his wife, father of sir Henry de Walpole, knt. who held lands in Houghton, and was knighted by Edward I. About the 50th of Henry III. he was a justice of gaol delivery, and sold lands by deed, *sans date*, to John de Spalding, (burgess of Lynn) in Tyrinton, and sealed, as by his deed appears, with a fess, between two chevrons; the arms of the present earl of Orford. He married Isabel, daughter of sir Peter Fitz-Osbert, of Somerley town, sister and heir to sir Roger Fitz-Osbert, and was living in the 14th of Edward I. when a fine was levied between him and Asceline, daughter of Hugh Lound, or Lovard, of Houghton by Rudham: and at the said time lived Ralph de Walpole, bishop of Ely,

third son of sir John de Walpole, who after being bishop of Norwich ten years, was translated to the see of Ely, which he held only three years, and died March 20, 1302.

In the 34th of Edward I. Isabella de Walpole was found to be one of the cousins and heirs of Roger Fitz-Peter Fitz-Osbert, and John, son of Alice Negoun, was the other: she was afterwards the wife of sir Walter Jerningham: sir Henry de Walpole was his son. To him and Alice his wife, Mr. Robert de Saham, and others, trustees, granted November 30, in the 4th of Edward II. two parts of this lordship, with lands in Walpole and Walton, and all the lands purchased by sir Henry, his father, of Asceline aforesaid, with the third part of this manor in reversion, which Isabel Jerningham, formerly the wife of sir Henry his father, held in dower. Sir Henry died about the 9th of Edward III. and Henry was his son and heir.

In the 11th of that reign, William le Gros, parson of the church of Bently Parva in Essex, as a trustee, settled this manor on Henry de Walpole and Margaret his wife, who was daughter of sir Oliver le Gros, of Croftwick.

In the 7th of Richard II. Henry de Walpole and Edmund his son, were witnesses to a deed, and Henry was found to be cousin and heir of sir John le Gros, knt. and as such released all his right in his manors: and in the 3d of Henry IV. Henry, son of sir Henry de Walpole, held one fee of the dutchy of Lancaster, and one quarter of a fee of the lord Bardolf. In 1407, anno 9 Henry IV. he was living, and stiled Henry de Walpole, senior, esq. and died about the 20th of Henry VI.

In

In the 10th of Henry VI. Henry de Walpole, his eldest son, and Margery his wife, were possessed of ten marks rent issuing out of the manor of Haleshall, near Loddon: she was daughter of sir John Harlike, knt. of Southacre, and by the name of Henry Walpole, esq. of Houghton, made his will on the feast of the invention of the holy cross in 1442; " Gives to Catherine his daughter 40l. towards her marriage, and the said sum to Alice his daughter, out of the profits of the manor of Houghton; to Martin his son, under age, four marks per ann. for life, and to have all the lands which Catherine his father's sister had of the gift of his father Henry, deceased, Appoints Henry his son, Edmund Percy, William Marchale, esqrs. his executors, to hold the manor of Houghton, to perform his will, and after the performance of it, to Henry his son, in-tail male, remainder to John his son; to Henry his son, his manor in Walpole, with the appurtenances, and to John his son the manor of Iftede in Suffolk." He had three other sons, William, Martin and Thomas, and was buried according to his will in the church of St. Martin, of Houghton, by his wife; and his will was proved June 27, 1442. Henry his eldest son, in the 34th of Henry VI. settled his manor of Walpole on trustees. He married an Etchingham, who bore azure, fretty, argent; which arms, impaled by Walpole, were painted on the screens of this church, next to those of Walpole and Harlike. 'Tis probable that he died without issue, his brother or son, John de Walpole, esq. granting, in the the 21st of Edward IV. to William his brother, the manor of Iftede in Weybrede, Suffolk; and in the 9th of Henry VII. an inquisition was awarded into this county, and that of Suffolk, on the death of John Walpole, esq. who was found to have died seised of

this manor, held of the manor of Wormegay by knights service; and Thomas was his son and heir, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Robert Shawe, esq; of Derby.

Thomas Walpole, gent. son and heir of John Walpole, esq. late of Houghton, deceased, gives in the 12th of Henry VII. to Thomas Allen of Walpole, a messuage, with fifteen acres of land, also seven acres, and a salt-work, with all the grain belonging lately to his father John Walpole, esq. lying between the land of the chantry of St. Mary, which his father had of the gift of John Walpole, late of London, son of Martin Walpole, late of Walpole, and the land of Robert Brandon, late of Newton, esq. Thomas Hunston, gent. and Philip Sutton, esq. He married Joan, daughter of William Cobb, of Sandringham, esq. by whom he had John his eldest son, who died before him without issue, Edward and Henry.

By the name of Thomas Walpole, of Lynne-Bishop, esq. he made his will, May 24, 1512, wherein he gives " to his son Henry all his purchased
 " lands (his manor of Howeton to remain ten years
 " in his feoffees hands, to perform his will) and his
 " manor of Weybrede, five years after the decease
 " of his wife; his executors to receive the profits of
 " his lands, tenements, &c. in Walpole, four years
 " and an half, for the making of his tombe, and
 " for making the north yalde of the parish church of
 " Howetone, and that done, the said lands, tenements, &c. in Walpole, to be delivered to the
 " brotherhood of the holy Trinity in Lynne-Bishop,
 " to the intent that the alderman and skyvens of the
 " said gylde shall find and pay yerly eight marks to
 " the wages of an abil priest to syng messe perpetually

“ ally for his fowl, and the fowl of Jone his wyfe,
 “ in the chapel of our Lady, in the chapel of St.
 “ Nicholas in Lynne. And more, I will that the
 “ said preste shall be at commons and lodging in
 “ the college of the holy Trinity, so that he be or-
 “ dered by the statutes of the place, and to have
 “ 6s. 8d. of the said college yerly; and if the said
 “ alderman and skyvens, or successors, refuse to per-
 “ form the same, &c. I will the said lands, &c. to
 “ be sold by my executor Jeff. Cobbe, my brother-
 “ in-law, and my son Henry Waipole.” This was
 proved April 7, 1513. He was found to die Janu-
 ary 24 following, Edward his son being then aged 30.

Edward Walpole, esq. his eldest son, married
 Lucy, daughter of sir Terry Robfert, sister of sir
 John Robfert of Syderstone, and heir to Amy, first
 wife to sir Robert Dudley, the great earl of Leiceſter
 in queen Elizabeth's time, daughter and heir of sir
 John Robfert.

Edward was buried January 2, 1558, and Lucy
 Feb. 1, 1559, at Houghton. They had three sons
 and one daughter.

John Walpole, son and heir of Edward and Lucy,
 married Catherine, daughter and heir of William
 Calybut of Coxford, gent. and was buried in Hough-
 ton church, March 29, 1585, and Catherine Sep-
 tember 25, 1612, and left Edward Walpole, esq. his
 son and heir, who was attainted for treasonable prac-
 tices at Rome, and died abroad without issue, being,
 as some say, a Romish priest. Calybut Walpole,
 esq. was his twin-brother and heir, who by Eliza-
 beth, daughter and coheir of Edmund Bacon, of
 Hefset in Suffolk, esq. had several children, and died
 May 4, 1646.

To this Calybut, John Walpole, esq. his father, by his will dated Feb. 28, in the 30th of Elizabeth, gives the manor of Syderstone, with that of Bircham-Newton, after the decease of the right honourable Robert earl of Leicester, with his fold-course and lands which he had of Roger Townshend, esq. in Bircham-Magna, and all the sheep going on the same. Catherine his wife to have all his lands in Walpole and Walton, to her and her heirs, towards the pre-ferment of his daughter's marriage, and to hold the manor of Houghton for life. Edward, his eldest son and heir, (as above) was indicted in the King's Bench for supposed treason, (in the 30th of Elizabeth, March 10) done at Rome; and on May 26, 39th of Elizabeth, again indicted. After this on August 3, in the said year, the queen granted to — Hufsey and — Goodman, the forfeited lands of Edward, and they grant them, Sept. 27th following, to Calybut his brother.

Robert Walpole, esq. son and heir of Calybut, married Susan, daughter of sir Edward Barkham, knt. lord mayor of London, and died May 1, 1663, and Susan Nov. 9, 1622, and buried at Houghton.

Sir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, and member in parliament for King's Lynn, succeeded him as son and heir; and by Susan his wife, daughter and coheir of sir Robert Crane, bart. of Chilton in Suffolk, left at his death, March 9, 1668, Robert Walpole, esq. his son and heir, member of parliament for Castle-Rising, and deputy lieutenant of Norfolk, who took to wife Mary, only daughter and heir of sir Jeffrey Burwell, knt. of Rougham in Suffolk, by whom he had nineteen children.

Robert





Sir ROBERT WALPOLE, B^t
Earl of Orford.

Published as the Act directs, Dec.^r 23.^d 1778. by M. Booth Norwich.

Robert Walpole, esq. his third son and only surviving heir, was born Aug. 26, 1674, succeeded to the estate of Houghton in November 1700,

He was first chosen member for Lynn-Regis the same year, and served in parliament for that borough till 1742, excepting one session (1711).

In 1705 he was a lord commissioner of the admiralty, and in 1707 secretary of war; likewise treasurer of the navy, January 1709. In the same year he was chosen one of the managers in the house of commons, to make good the articles of impeachment against the Rev. Dr. Sacheverel.

On the change of the ministry in 1710, sir Robert was removed from his employments during queen Anne's reign; but George I. on his accession to the throne, made him paymaster of the guards and garisons at home, and of the forces abroad in 1714.—He was sworn of his majesty's privy-council, Oct. 1, 1715, and constituted first lord commissioner of the navy, and chancellor of the exchequer, the 10th of the same month; both which he resigned in April 1717, but held the same offices again, April 4, 1721.—May 27, 1725, he was invested with the ensigns and dignity of Knight of the Bath; and on the 26th of May, 1726, was elected a Knight Companion of the noble order of the Garter.—In 1727, he was chosen a governor of the Charter-house; and in July 1738, unanimously elected high steward of Lynn-Regis.—He was several times appointed one of the lords justices during his majesty's stay in Hanover.

In December 1741, he resigned all his places at court, and was created, Feb. 9 following, Earl of
D 4 Orford

Orford in Suffolk, Viscount and Baron Walpole of Houghton in Norfolk. His lordship died, much afflicted with the stone, in the 70th year of his age, at his house in Arlington-street, London, on Sunday March 18, 1746.

By his first lady, Catherine, daughter of John Shorter, esq. of Bybrook in Kent, (son and heir of sir John Shorter, knt. lord mayor of London) who died August 20, 1737, his lordship had

1. Robert, created baron Walpole June 10, 1723, in consideration of his father's great services, the antiquity of his family, &c. and took his place in the house of lords accordingly. He had the dignity of the military order of the Bath conferred on him by George II. was afterwards ranger and keeper of Richmond park, clerk of the pells, lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Devon, master of the harriers and foxhounds, and auditor of the exchequer. He married Margaret, daughter of Samuel Rolls, of Heynton in Devonshire, esq. by whom he had George, the present earl of Orford. She died the 20th of August, 1737, and her youngest son, the honourable Horatio Walpole, erected a monument in Henry the Seventh's chapel, Westminster abbey, with the following inscription:

To the Memory
of
CATHERINE LADY WALPOLE,

Eldest Daughter of John Shorter, Esq;
Of Bybrook, in Kent,
and

First Wife of Sir Rober Walpole,
Afterwards Earl of Orford.

Horace,
Her youngest son,
Consecrates this Monument.

She had Beauty and Wit
Without Vice and Vanity;
And cultivated the Arts
Without affectation.

She was devout,
Tho' without Bigotry to any Sect;
And was without Prejudice to any Party,
Tho' the Wife of a Minister;
Whose Power she esteem'd,
But when she could employ it
To benefit the Miserable,
Or to reward the Meritorious.

She lov'd a private Life,
Tho' born to shine in public:
And was an Ornament to Courts,
Untainted by them.

She died August 20, 1737.

It is somewhat remarkable that the two ladies of sir Robert, first and second, were both buried at Houghton within the year.

2. The right honourable sir Edward Walpole, of Frogmore near Windsor, Knight of the Bath, clerk of the pells, and master of the office of pleas in the exchequer, and one of his majesty's honourable privy council in Ireland.

3. The honourable Horatio Walpole, of Strawberry-hill, near Twickenham in Middlesex, fellow of the royal and antiquary society; usher of his majesty's exchequer, comptroller of the pipe office, and clerk of the estreats in the court of exchequer.

Sir Robert Walpole's second lady was Maria, daughter and heiress of Thomas Skirret, of Doverstreet, esq. who died June 4, 1738, by whom his lordship had lady Mary, married to Cha. Churchill, esq. son of the late lieutenant-general Churchill, who served under the duke of Marlborough in Flanders and Germany, in the reign of queen Anne.

Robert, the second earl of Walpole, died April 1, 1751, and was succeeded by his only son George, the present earl, whose hereditary and temporary titles are as follow: Earl of Orford, Viscount and Baron Walpole of Houghton, Ranger of St. James's and Hyde Parks, and a Lord of his Majesty's Bedchamber; Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum, and Vice-Admiral of the County of Norfolk, and of the City and County of Norwich; Colonel of the Norfolk Regiment of Militia, a Brigadier-General, and High Steward of the Corporations of Great Yarmouth and Lynn-Regis.

HOUGHTON





In the year 1722, sir Robert began the foundation of a most noble hall, or palace, of free stone, which he finished, and furnished in a most elegant taste, and sumptuous manner.

HOUGHTON-HALL is enriched with the most valuable collection of pictures to be seen, perhaps, in any house in England.

The common approach to the house is by the south end door, over which is engraved this inscription:

Robertus Walpole
Has Ædes
Anno S. M.D.CC.XXII.
Inchoavit,
Anno M.D.CC.XXXV.
Perfecit,

At the entrance on the right hand is the breakfast parlour.

Over the Chimney.

1. Hounds, (a very good picture) by Wooton.

On the opposite side.

2. The return of the prodigal son, by Pordenone. A very dark picture; the architecture and landscape very good. It belonged to George Villiers, the great duke of Buckingham.

Over one door.

3. Sir Edward Walpole, grandfather to sir Robert: he was made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of king Charles II. and made a great figure in parliament. Once on a very warm debate in the house, he proposed an expedient, to which both parties

ties immediately concurred; on which Waller, the poet, moved that he might be sent to the Tower, for not having composed the heats sooner when he had it in his power. He married Susan, daughter to sir Robert Crane, and is buried in Houghton church, with this plain epitaph,

Here lies Sir Edward Walpole.

Cætera si quæras, narrabit fama superflua.

Over the other door.

4. Robert, son to sir Edward, and father to sir Robert Walpole.

Over the scrutoire.

5. Horatio, first lord Townshend, and grandfather to the present lord.

Over the glass.

6. Old Harrold, gardener to sir Robert, by John Ellis.

Opposite to the chimney.

7. A greyhound, half length, by Old Wyck, Wootton's master.

8. An horse's head, a fine sketch, by Vandyke.

Opposite to the window.

9. Concert of birds and fowls, by Mario di Fiori. A very uncommon picture; for he seldom painted any thing but flowers. It belonged to Gibbins the carver.

In the Dining Parlour.

Over the chimney.

1. His excellency Horatio Walpole, brother to sir Robert, three quarters length, by Richardson.—He was ambassador in France and Holland, cofferer of the household, and, lastly, one of the tellers of the exchequer. He was created lord Walpole of Woolterton by George II. in the year 1756.

Opposite to the chimney.

2. Charles lord viscount Townshend, secretary of state, by sir Godfrey Kneller.

3. Dorothy lady Townshend, his second wife, by Jervase.

On one side.

4. Sir Charles Turner, one of the lords of the treasury: he married to his first wife Mary, eldest sister to sir Robert Walpole, three quarters length, by Richardson.

5. Sir Robert Walpole (when secretary at war to queen Anne) and

6. His lady; both by Jervase.

On the other side,

7. The battle of Constantine and Maxentius; a copy, by Julio Romano, of the famous picture in the Vatican, which he executed after a design of Raphael. The story is thus told by Zosimus, hist. lib. 2. "Tantis cum ambo copijs instructi essent, &c. Tignis autem minime sustinentibus eam vim oneris, adeoque ruptis, cum cætera multitudine Maxentius etiam fluminis impetu abripiebatur."

Over doors.

Four ladies belonging to the Walpole family, viz.

8. Ann Walpole, aunt to sir Robert Walpole. She was wife to Mr. Spelman, of Narborough in Norfolk.

9. Dorothy Walpole, ditto, died unmarried.

10. Mary Walpole, ditto, married to John Wilson, esq. of Leicestershire.

11. Elizabeth Walpole, ditto, second wife to James Hoste, esq. of Sandringham in Norfolk.

The

The hunting hall.—*At the upper end.*

1. An hunting match, by Wooton.—This picture represents three harriers, formerly belonging to lord Orford, afterwards to the late duke of Cumberland, and three buck-hounds belonging to king George II, Considerable wagers were laid on both sides, but the latter were remarkably defeated.

Opposite to it.

2. An hunting piece, by Wooton.—Sir Robert Walpole is in green, Col. Charles Churchill in the middle, and Mr. T. Turner on one side. Sir Robert is drawn upon a white horse which formerly belonged to the Pretender, and was taken in the rebellion in 1715.

Opposite to the chimney.

3. Sufannah and the two elders, by Rubens.

Through the arcade you come at the coffee-room, at the upper end of which is,

1. Galataea, by Zimeni.

Opposite to it.

2. Jupiter and Europa, after Guido, by Pietro da Pietris.

Over the chimney.

3. A landscape, with figures dancing, by Swanevelt.

On the right hand of the chimney.

4. Horatio Walpole, uncle to sir Robert, and commonly called the Black Colonel: he married lady Ann Osborne, daughter of Thomas, first duke of Leeds, and widow of Robert Coke, esq. of Holkham in Norfolk, grandfather to the late earl of Leicester.

On

On the left hand.

5. Galfridus Walpole, esq. younger brother to sir Robert, and one of the general postmasters; by Richardson.—He was captain of the lion in queen Anne's wars, and was attacked by five French ships on the coast of Italy against three English, two of which deserted him; but his own he brought off, after fighting bravely, and having his arm shot off.

In the Bed-chamber.

1. The conversion of St. Paul, by Paul Veroneze.

Upon the grand floor; in the Anti-chamber.

1. A landscape, in the stile of Claude Lorrain, by Wooton.

The blue damask Bed-chamber: it is hung with tapestry.

Over the chimney.

1. Sir Robert Walpole, afterwards earl of Orford, in his chancellor's robes, by Vanloo.—He was prime minister to king George I. and king George II.

*Quem neque Tydides, nec Larissæus Achilles, non Anni
Domnere decem.*

Over three doors.

2. } Landscapes, by Wooton.
3. }
4. }

The Drawing Room.

'Tis hung with yellow caffoy. Over the chimney is a genteel bust of a Madona in marble, by Camillo Rusconi: above is carving by Gibbins, gilt; and in it a fine picture by Vandyke.

1. Of

1. Of two girls, daughters of lord Wharton.—These came out of the Wharton collection, with all the other Vandykes in this room, and some others now at lord Orford's at the Exchequer.

On the right hand of the chimney.

2. King Charles I. in armour, by Vandyke.—By a mistake both the gauntlets are drawn for the right hand.

3. Henrietta Maria of France, his queen, by ditto.

On the left hand of the chimney.

4. Philip lord Wharton, by ditto.

5. Archbishop Laud, by ditto.—The university of Oxford once offered the Wharton family 400l. for this picture.

Over the door.

6. Lord chief baron Wandersford, by ditto.—He was head of the Castle-Comer family.

Over the settle.—In the center.

7. Lord Walpole, the second earl of Orford, by Rosalba.

On the right hand.

8. Sir Edward Walpole, second son to sir Robert, by ditto.

On the left hand.

9. Horatio Walpole, esq. third son, by ditto.

On the right hand.

10. Lady Cholmondely, (not finished) a profile sketch, by Jervase.

On the left hand.

11. Lady Maria Walpole, by Pond, (now lady Maria Churchill).

On

On the side next the bed-chamber.

12. A sleeping Bacchus, with nymphs, boys, and animals, by Luca Jordano.

Over the door.

13. Jane, daughter of lord viscount Wenman, by Vandyke.—The hands, in which Vandyke excell'd, are remarkably fine in this picture.

On the opposite side.

14. The judgment of Paris, companion to No. 12, by Luca Jordano.—There is an odd diffusion of light all over this picture. The Pallas is a remarkable fine figure.

Over the door,

15. Lady Wharton, by Vandyke.

The cieling is exactly taken, except with the alteration of the paternal coat for the star and garter, from one that was in the dining-room of the old house.

The Saloon.

The hanging is crimson flowered velvet. On the great table is an exceeding fine bronze of a man and woman, by John of Boulogne; given by Horace Mann, esq. king's resident at Florence.

On the other tables are two vases of oriental alabaster.

Over the chimney.

1. St. John baptizing Christ, by Albano.—His large pieces are seldom good; but this is equal, both for colouring and drawing, to any of his master Carracci, or his fellow scholar Guido. It belonged to Mr. Lawes, first minister to the regent of France.

Over the door on the right hand.

2. The adoration of shepherds, by Morellio:—All the light comes from the child.

Over the door on the left hand.

3. The assumption of the Virgin, its companion, by Morellio.

On the side next the Drawing-room,

4. The stoning of St. Stephen, by Le Sœur.—A capital picture: it contains nineteen figures, and is remarkable for expressing a most masterly variety of grief. The saint, by a remarkable anacronism, is in the habit of a modern priest at high mass.

Over the door on the right hand.

5. Dædalus and Icarus, by Le Brun,—The story is taken from Ovid.

Over the door on the left hand.

6. The Cyclops at their forge, by Luca Jordano. This belonged to Gibbins.

On the side next the Hall, on the right hand of the door.

A capital picture.

7. Mary Magdalen washing Christ's feet, by Rubens.—Our Saviour is represented at an entertainment given him at the house of Simon the Pharisee; three Apostles are drawn with him, four Pharisees, and several attendants, men and women; in all fourteen figures, large as life.

On the left side of the door.

A capital picture.

8. Holy Family, with a dance of angels, by Vandyke.—This picture was twice sold for 1400*l.* since

since that it belonged to the house of Orange. The princess of Frieland (mother to the present prince of Orange) sold it during his minority, when sir Robert bought it. It cost him 1000*l*.

The six uppermost pictures, three of which are on the left hand of the door, viz.

9. Holy Family, (in a round figure) by Cantarini. The child is learning to read.
10. Ditto, by Titian.—A very fine picture.
11. Simeon and child, by Guido.—From Monsieur de Morville's collection.

On the right hand,

12. Virgin and Child asleep, by Aug. Caracci.
13. Old woman giving a boy cherries, by Titian. 'Tis Titian's son and nurse.
14. Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto.—These two last were from the collection of the marquis Mari at Genoa.

The Cieling.

Apollo driving his chariot of the sun, in chiaro oscuro, by Kent.

The Carlo Maratt Room.

The hangings are green velvet: there is in it a table of lapis lazuli, and at each end are two sconces of massive silver.

Over the chimney.

1. Pope Clement IX. of the Rospigliosi family; a most admirable portrait, by Carlo Maratti.—This picture was bought by Jervase, the painter, out of the Arnaldi palace at Florence. Nothing can be finer than this: the boldness of the pencilling is as

remarkable as his delicacy in his general pictures. Carlo Maratti was so pleased with this picture, and it was so much admired, that he did several of them. One in particular is at lord Burlington's at Chiswick. It cost three hundred guineas.

The four uppermost pictures on the chimney side,

2. The pool of Bethesda.

3. Christ's sermon on the mount.

4. Apollo and Daphne.

5. Bacchus and Ariadne; all by Gioseppe Chiari, a scholar of Carlo's.—The best of the four, the Bacchus, seems to be taken from the Apollo Belvedere; as the ideas of the Ariadne and the Venus evidently are from the figures of Liberty and Modesty in the famous picture of Guido's, in the collection of the marquis del Monte at Bologna. There are four pictures about the size of these in the Spada palace at Rome, by the same hand: two just the same with these two last; the other two are likewise stories out of the Metamorphoses.

6. The marriage of St. Catherine, by Carlo Maratti.

7. The Assumption of the Virgin, by ditto.—She has a deep blue veil all over her. 'Tis on the left hand of the chimney.

8. Its companion, ditto, on the right hand, by Nicholo Beretoni.

9. The Virgin and Joseph, with a young Jesus, in the manner of his master Andrea Sacchi, by Carlo Maratti.

At the end next the saloon.

In the center, a capital picture.

10. Galathea sitting with Acis, Tritons and Cupids, by C. Maratti.

Under

Under the Galatæa.

11. The Virgin, our Saviour, and St. John, (unfinished) large as life, by C. Maratti.

On the right hand,

12. Flight into Egypt, by Morellio.—In the manner of Vandyke.

13. The head of St. Catherine, (profile) by Guido Reni.

14. St. Coecilia with four angels playing on musical instruments, by C. Maratti.—This was in the Pallavicini collection.

Over the door.

15. A naked Venus and Cupid, in a very particular stile, by C. Maratti.

On the left hand of the same side.

16. A crucifix, by Morellio.

17. The head (with a glass before it) in a great stile, by Raphael.

18. Virgin teaching the child to read, by C. Maratti.—Gioseppe Chiari has executed this thought in the Barberini palace at Rome; but with alterations. In this the Virgin is in red, Gioseppe's is in white; and instead of St. John, St. Elizabeth, and the angels, he has drawn a cardinal reading.—This was also in the Pallavicini collection.

At the end next the bedchamber.

In the center.

19. A capital picture, companion to Galatæa, viz. the Judgment of Paris, king Priam's son, by Carlo Maratti.—C. Maratti was then eighty-three years old; yet has none of the rawness of his latter pieces. It came out of the Pallavicini collection. The earl

of Strafford has a very good copy of it by Giuseppe Chiari.

Under it,

20. The Virgin Mary, our Saviour and St. John, by Nicholo Beretoni, Carlo's best scholar.—This picture is equal to any of his master's. The grace and sweetness of the Virgin, and the beauty and drawing of the young Jesus, are incomparable.

On the right hand.

21. St. John the Evangelist, by C. Maratti.

22. Diana, in crayons, by Rosalba.

23. The presentation of the Virgin in the Temple, by Luca Jordano.—This and its companion (the birth of Christ) are finished designs for two large pictures, which he painted for the fine church of the Madonna della Salute at Venice.

On the left hand.

24. Two saints worshipping the Virgin in the clouds, by C. Maratti.

25. Apollo, in crayons, companion to No. 22, by Rosalba,

26. The birth of Christ, by Luca Jordano.

Over the door.

27. Hercules and Omphale, by Romanelli.

The Ceiling.

Ornaments in chiaro oscuro, by Kent.

The Velvet Bed-chamber.

The bed is of green velvet, richly embroidered and laced with gold; the ornaments designed by Kent. The hangings are tapestry, representing the loves of Venus and Adonis, after Albano.

Over

Over the first door.

1. A landscape, by Griffier.

Over the chimney.

2. Alexander hanging up a garland upon the tomb of Achilles, by Le Mer.—Vid. Q, Curtius, 2d book, 4th chap. The head of Alexander is taken from his medals; the figures are in the true antique taste, and the buildings fine.

Over the other door.

3. A sea-port, by Greffier.

The Ceiling.

Aurora rising, chiaro oscura, by Kent.

The Dressing-room.

This room is hung with very fine gold tapestry, after pictures of Vandyke. There are whole-length portraits of king James I. queen Anne his wife, (daughter of Frederick II. king of Denmark) Charles the First and his queen, and Christian IV. king of Denmark, brother to queen Anne. They have fine borders of boys, with festoons, and oval pictures of the children of the royal family.

At the upper end of this room is a glass-case filled with a large quantity of silver philegree, which belonged to Catherine lady Walpole.

Over the chimney.

The books of the Sybils found in the tomb of Numa Pompilius, by Le Mer.—The painter has mistaken and represented a large number of books; whereas the histories say, that when the Sybil offered them at first to Tarquinius Superbus, there were but nine; and on his twice refusing them, she burnt

fix, and then made him pay the first demanded price for the remaining three, which were kept in a stone vault with the greatest care, and only consulted upon extraordinary occasions by two of the nobility, who had the charge of them. There is a remarkable anacronism in this picture: the painter has thrown in among the buildings the Septizonium Severi; now Sylla's dictatorship began in the year 672 U. C. and Severus did not begin his reign till 945 U. C. or 193 A. D.

Some authors say there were only three at first; two of which were committed to the flames by her that set them up to sale to Tarquin, who not coming up to the price of the three volumes, bought the third for as much as was demanded for all three.

The truest account is nine, vid. Prideaux's Connection, vol. iv. page 880.

The pieces of Dogs over doors.

2. } By Jervase.
3. }

The Ceiling.

Spring with flowers, chiaro oscuro, by Kent.

The Embroidered Bed-chamber.

The bed is of the finest Indian needle-work. His highness Francis duke of Lorrain, afterwards Grand Duke of Tuscany, and since Emperor, lay in this bed, which stood then where the velvet one now is.

Over the chimney.

1. Holy Family, large as life, by Nicholo Pouffin.—'Tis one of the most capital pictures in this collection. The airs of the heads, and the draperies, are in the fine taste of Raphael; and the antique Elizabeth's

Elizabeth's head, is taken from a statue of an old woman in the Villa Borghese at Rome.

Cattle over doors.

2. } By Rosa de Tivoli.
3. }

The Ceiling.

Luna and Endymion, chiaro oscuro, by Kent.

In the Cabinet.—Over the chimney,

A celebrated picture of Rubens's wife, by Vandyke.—She is in black sattin, with a hat on.

On the side opposite to the chimney.

1. Rubens's family, by Jordaens of Antwerp.—Rubens is playing on a lute: his first wife is sitting with one of their children on her lap, and two others before her. There are several other figures and genii in the air. This picture belonged to the duke of Portland.

2. A winter piece, by Giacomo Bassan.

3. A summer piece, by Lionardo Bassan.

4. Friars giving meat to the poor, by John Miel.

5. St. John, by Carlo Dolci.

6. Dobson's father's head, by Dobson.

7. Head of Innocent X. by Velasco.—Velasco was sent by the king of Spain to draw this Pope's picture. When the Pope sent his chamberlain to pay him, he would not receive the money, saying, the king his master always paid him with his own hand. In which the Pope humoured him too.—This Pope was of the Pamphili family, was reckoned the ugliest man of his time, and was raised to the Papacy by the intrigues of his sister-in-law Donna Olimpia, a most beautiful woman, and his mistress.

8. Boy

8. Boy with a flute, by Cavalier Luti.
9. A banquet; companion to No. 4, by John Miel.
10. Dying officer at confession, by Bourgoynone.
—Very bright colouring and fine expression,
11. Boers at cards, (small) by Teniers.
12. Christ in the sepulchre, by Giacomo Bassan.
—A very particular picture. The lights are laid on so thick, that it seems quite basso relievo. 'Tis a fine design for a great altar-piece which he has painted at Padua. This picture was a present from lord Waldegrave, embassador at Paris.
13. Virgin with the child asleep, by Sebastian Concha.
14. Virgin and child, painted on black marble, by Morellio.—It was given by Benjamin Keene, esq. embassador at Madrid.
15. Landscape, with officers, by Bourgoynone.
16. Holy family, by Rottenhamer.
17. Judgment of Paris, by And. Schiavone.
18. Christ in the sepulchre, by Parmegiano.—
This is one of the finest pictures he ever painted; and for which there is a tradition that he was knighted by a duke of Parma. There are eleven figures: the expression, the drawing and colouring, the perspective and chiaro oscuro, are as fine as possible. The figure of Joseph of Arimathea is Parmegiano's own portrait.
19. Wife mens offering, (small) by Velvet Brueghel.—There are a multitude of little figures, all finished with the greatest Dutch exactness. The ideas too are a little Dutch: for the Ethiopian king is dressed in a surplice with boots and spurs, and brings for a present a gold model of a modern ship.
20. Boers at cards, (large) by Teniers.
21. Christ in the garden appearing to Mary Magdalen, by Pietro da Cortona.—An exceeding fine picture.

22. Judgment of Midas, by And. Schiavone.

23. Virgin and child, by Baroccio.

24. Naked Venus sleeping, by Annibal Caracci.

A most perfect picture; the contours of the colouring excessively fine.

25. Holy family, with St. John upon a lamb, by Williberts, a scholar of Rubens, who has made a large picture, from whence this is taken, now in the palace Pitti at Florence. This is finely finish'd, and the colouring neater than Rubens.

26. Virgin and child standing, (painted on black marble) by Alexander Veronese.

27. Boors drinking, by Ostade.

28. Landscape, with soldiers, companion to No. 15, by Bourgonne.

29. Battle piece, companion to No. 10, by ditto.

30. Three soldiers, by Salvator Rosa.

31. King Edward VI. by Hans Holbein.—This was in the royal collection, and upon the dispersion of king Charles's pictures in the rebellion, sold into Portugal; where it was bought by lord Tyrawley, embassador at Lisbon, and given to lord Orford.

On the side opposite to the window.

1. Landscape, with a waterfall and sheep, by Sebastian Bourdon.—'Tis Laban searching for his images. When Jacob withdrew privately from Laban, Rachel stole her father's idols, which he pursued them to demand. Gen. xxxi. 33.

2. Holy family, by John Bellino.—It belonged to Mr. Lawes.

3.	} Six drawings for triumphal arches, designed for the entrance of Albert, archduke of Austria, into Antwerp.
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Albert

Albert married the Infanta Isabella, Philip the Second's daughter.

Mr. Walpole, in his book, says, "They were designed for triumphal arches on the entry of the Infant Ferdinand, of Austria, into Antwerp.—They are printed with a description of that festival."—Rubens,

In the center.

9. Cieling of the banquetting-house, by Rubens.—'Tis the original design of Rubens for the middle compartment of that cieling, and represents the assumption of king James the First into Heaven. It belonged to sir Godfrey Kneller, who studied it much, as is plain from his sketch for king William's picture in the parlour.

10. Bathsheba bringing Abishag to David, 1 ft Kings i. by Vanderwerffe.—Given by the duke of Chandois.

11. A flower-piece, }
12. A fruit-piece, } by Vanhijysam.

Vanhijysam's brother lived with lord Orford, and painted most of the pictures in the attic story here.

13. } Landscapes, by Gasper Pouffin.
14. }

15. Christ appearing to Mary Magdalen, by Philippo Laura.

Over three doors.

16. Holy family, by Matteo Ponzoni.—A most uncommon hand, and a very fine picture.

17. Murder of Innocents, by Sebastian Bourdon.

18. The death of Joseph; our Saviour and the Virgin attending him, by Velasco.

On the side of the Chimney.

19. A Christopher, by Elsheimer.—A very small picture. Here is a common error among the Roman Catholic painters. In the distant landscape is an hermit, with an oratory of the Virgin Mary, at the time that St. Christopher is carrying Jesus, yet a child.—At Bologna there is an old picture of the Salutation, where the angel finds the Virgin Mary praying before a crucifix, with the *Officium Beatæ Virginis* in her hand.

The Ceiling.

Minerva trampling upon Envy, by Kent.

*The Marble Parlour.**On the side next the cabinet.*

1. Henry Danvers, earl of Danby, whole length, by Vandyke.—This lord was created a baron by James I. and made Knight of the Garter and earl by Charles I.

On the side next the hall.

2. Sir Thomas Wharton, Knight of the Bath, by ditto.—From the Wharton collection.

Over two doors.

3. } Two fruit-pieces, by Michael Angelo Cam-
 4. } pidoglio.
 From Mr. Scawen's collection.

Over another door.

5. The Ascension, by Paul Veronese.

Over the other.

6. The Apostles after the Ascension, by ditto.

One entire side of this room is marble, with alcoves for side-boards, supported with columns of Plymouth marble. Over the chimney is a fine piece of alto relievo in statuary marble, after the antique, by Rysbrack; and before one of the tables, a large granite cistern.

The Grand Hall.

The hall is a cube of forty feet, with a stone gallery round three sides. The cieling and the frieze of boys are by Altari. The bas-reliefs over the chimney and doors are from the antique.

The figures over the great door, and the boys over the lesser doors, are by Rysbrack.

In the frieze are bas-reliefs of sir Robert Walpole and Catherine his first lady; and of Robert lord Walpole (their eldest son) and Margaret Rolles his lady.

From the cieling now hangs a very fine chandelier, in the room of a gilt lanthorn, which was sold to the earl of Chesterfield. The chandelier was bought at lord Cholmondeley's sale, 1748, by the present earl of Orford.—Party gave out at the first putting up the lanthorn in sir Robert Walpole's time, that he gave a ball upon the occasion, and eighteen couple danced in it: this was circulated in the Craftsman and other political papers of the day. The lanthorn was far unequal to the grandeur of the hall, and was therefore with great judgment taken down by the present earl of Orford.

Before a nich over-against the chimney is a fine statue of Laocoon and his two sons, stung to death
by

by serpents; cast in bronze by Girardon. It was bought by lord Walpole at Paris, and cost a thousand guineas.

Over the chimney is a bust of lord Orford, by Rysbrack.

On the tables, the Tyber and the Nile, in bronze, from the antiques in the capitol at Rome.

Two vases in bronze, from the antiques in the villas of Medici and Borgheze at Rome.

The bust of a woman, a most beautiful antique.

The bust of a Roman empress, antique.

*On Terms and Consoles round the Hall, are the following
Busts and Heads.*

Marcus Aurelius, antique.

Trajan, ditto.

Septimius Severus, ditto.

Commodus, ditto

The two last were given to Gen. Churchill by
Cardinal Albani, and by him to sir Robert.

A young Hercules, ditto.

Baccio Bandinelli, by himself.

Faustina senior, antique.

A young Commodus, antique.

Homer, modern.—Hesiod, ditto.

Jupiter, antique.—A philosopher, ditto. } *Heads.*
Hadrian, ditto.—Pollux, ditto.

In the Passage to the Gallery are,

Rome—Minerva—Antinous—Apollo—Belvedere,
by Camillo Rusconi.

A philosopher's head.

Julia pia Severi, antique.

In the vestibule, in niches, are six vases of Volterra alabaster.

Cieling of the Hall.—Arms of the family.

The great Stair-case.

Upon four Doric pillars is a fine cast, in bronze, of the Gladiator, by John of Boulogne.—Given by Thomas late earl of Pembroke.

Huntings, with proper ornaments, by Kent.

The Dining Parlour above Stairs.

Over the chimney is some fine pear-tree carving, by Grindelin Gibbins; and in the middle hangs

1. A portrait of him by sir Godf. Kneller.—
'Tis a master-piece, and equal to any of Vandyke's.

On the right hand of the chimney.

2. King William on horseback, by ditto—An exceeding fine sketch for the large equestrian picture, which sir Godfrey afterwards executed very ill at Hampton-Court, and with several alterations.

3. Holy family, with St. Francis and Catherine, by Raphael da Reggio, scholar of Zuccherò.

4. Architecture, by Steenwyck.—A fine picture, in perspective.

On

On the left hand of the chimney.

5. King George I. on horseback, companion to No. 2. but ill finished. The figure is by sir Godfrey Kneller, which he took from the king at Guildford horse-race. The horse is new painted by Wooton.

6. Stud of horses, by Woovermans,

7. Venus bathing, and Cupids with a cart, &c. by Andrea Sacchi.

Over one door.

8. Mrs. Ann Lee, daughter to sir Henry Lee, by sir Peter Lely.—She was married to Mr. Wharton, afterwards created a marquis; and was herself a celebrated poetess. Vid. Waller's poems.

Over the other door.

9. Mrs. Jane Deering, mistress to the marquis of Wharton, by sir Peter Lely.

At the end next the Hall.

In the center.

1. A Cook's Shop, by Martin de Vos, who was Snyder's master, and in this picture has excelled any thing done by his scholar: it is as large as life.—There is a greyhound snarling at a cat, in a most masterly manner.

Under it.

2. The school of Athens, by Le Brun.—After Raphael's fine picture in the Vatican.

On the right hand.

3. A man in his shirt, by Salvator Rosa.

4. Inigo Jones, by Vandyke.

5. Rembrandt's wife, by Rembrandt.

On the left hand.

6. Rubens's wife, by Rubens.
7. Mr. Lock, by sir Godfrey Kneller.—This is the only original picture of Mr. Lock, and was bought of one Geechy, brother to the doctor.
8. A Spanish poet writing, by sir Godfrey Kneller. His name was Joseph Carreras.

At the End next the Library.

In the center.

1. A Cook's Shop, by Teniers.—'Tis in his very best manner. There are several figures; in particular his own, in a hawking habit, with spaniels; and in the middle an old blind fisherman, finely painted.

Under it.

2. A Bacchanalian, by Rubens.—'Tis not a very pleasant picture; but the flesh of the Silenus and the female satyrs are highly coloured. There is a small design for this picture, revers'd, in the great duke's tribune at Florence.

On the right hand.

3. Erasmus, by Holbein.
4. Francis Halls, master to sir Godfrey Kneller, by Halls.
5. Sir Thomas Challoner, by Vandyke.—An admirable portrait. Sir Thomas was governor to Henry prince of Wales. Vid. Strafford papers, vol. i. page 490.

On the left hand.

6. Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of Gresham college, by Antonio More.

7. A

7. A friar's head, by Rubens.

8. The Nativity, by Carlo Cignani.—The thought of this picture is borrowed, as it has often been by other painters, from the famous *Notte* of Coreggio, at Modena, where all the light of the picture flows from the child.

Over doors.

Two landscapes of ruins, by Viviano.

In the LIBRARY.

Over the chimney.

King George I. full length, in his coronation robes, by sir Godfrey Kneller.—'Tis the only picture for which he ever sat in England.

The little Bed-chamber.

This room is all wainscotted with mahogany, and the bed, which is of painted taffety, stands in an alcove of the same wood.

Over the chimney is an half length, by Dahl, of Catherine Shorter, first wife of sir Robert Walpole, eldest daughter of John Shorter, esq. of Bybrook in Kent, by Elizabeth, daughter of sir Erasmus Philips, of Picton Castle in Pembrokeshire. This is an excellent good portrait.

Opposite to it.

A portrait of Maria Skerrett, second wife to sir Robert Walpole, by Vanloo.

The Gallery.

'Tis seventy-three feet long by twenty-one feet high; the middle rises eight feet higher, with windows all around; the cieling is a design of Serlio's

in the inner library of St. Mark's in Venice, and was brought from thence by Mr. Horace Walpole, jun. The frieze is taken from the Sibyl's temple at Tivoli. There are two chimneys, and the whole room is hung with Norwich damask. It was intended originally for a green-house, but on Sir Robert Walpole's resigning his employments, Feb. 9, 1742, he brought down all his pictures from Downing-street house, which belongs always to the first lord of the treasury; and the year following this room was fitted up for them.

On the south side.

1. A fruit-market, by Rubens and Snyder.
2. Horatius Cocles defending the bridge, by Mola.—Thus described by Livy, lib. ii. cap. 10.
 “ Quum hostes adessent, pro se quisq; &c. Grata
 “ erga tantam virtutem civitas fuit: statua in comi-
 “ tio posita: Agri quantum uno die circumaravit,
 “ datum; privata quoque inter Publicos Honores
 “ studia eminebant: namin magna inopia pro do-
 “ mesticis copiis unusquisque ei aliquid, fraudans
 “ se ipse victu suo, contulit.”
3. Two women, (an emblematical picture) by Paris Bourdon.—From Mr. Flinck's collection. Some say 'tis Harry the 4th of France, and two favourite mistresses, sisters to each other, The late lord Orford himself was at a loss about it.
4. Holy family, by Old Palma,—From Monsieur Flinck's collection.
5. A Bacchanal, (companion to Cyrus, No. 20) by Castiglioni,—The subject, which at first seems to be the story of Orpheus, but certainly is not, from the principal figures being thrown into the distant landscape, was guess'd by lord Orford to be taken from this stanza of the 19th ode, lib. 2. of Horace.

Bacchum in remotis carmina Rupibus
 Vidi docentem: (Credite posteri)
 Nymphasq; discentes, et aures
 Capripedum Satyrorum acutas.

6. A cart overturning by moonshine, by Rubens.
 —It was lord Cadogan's.

7. Africa, a landscape, by Paul Brill.

8. An old woman sitting in her chair, by Rubens.
 —Bought at Mr. Scawen's sale.

9. Cupid burning armour, by Elizabetta Sirani,
 Guido's favourite scholar.

10. Usurer and wife, by Quintin Matsis, the blacksmith of Antwerp. —This picture is finished with the greatest labour and exactness imaginable, and was painted for a family in France. It differs very little from one at Windsor, which he did for king Charles I.

In the center.

11. Lions and two lions, by Rubens. —Nothing can be livelier, or in a greater stile, than the attitude of the lions.

12. Architecture, by Julio Romano. —'Tis a kind of a street, with various marble palaces in perspective, like the Strada Nuova at Genoa. The buildings and bass-reliefs are extremely fine; the latter, especially, are so like the hand of Polydore, that we should rather think that this picture is by that master than by Julio Romano, whose it is called. There are some figures, but very poor ones; and undoubtedly not by the same hand as the rest of the picture. There is an officer kneeling by a woman, who shews the Virgin and Child in the clouds sitting under a rainbow. —About the year 1525, Julio Romano made designs for Arcine's Putana Errante, which were engraved by Marc Antonio, for which

the latter was put in prison, and Julio fled to Mantua. Two years after Rome was sack'd by Charles V. who made public processions and prayers for the delivery of the Pope, (Clement VII.) whom he kept in prison. 'Tis supposed the figure kneeling in this picture is Charles V. who is prompted by religion to ask pardon of the Virgin (above in the clouds) for having so ill treated the Pope. The figure sitting on the steps is certainly Aretine, and the man in prison in the corner Marc Antonio. Vid. Bayle in artic. Aretine.—This picture was a present to lord Orford from general Charles Churchill.

13. Old woman reading, by Boll.—An extreme fine protrait, bought at the duke of Portland's sale when he went governor to Jamaica.

14. The Holy Family, by Camillo Proccacino.—A groupe of heads.

15. Job's friends bringing him presents, by Guido.—A fine picture, which he has executed in large, and in his brightest manner. In the church of the Mendicants at Bologna, this is dark; but there is most masterly skill in the naked, and in the disposition of the figures.

16. Marcus Curtius leaping into the gulph, by Mola.—An exceeding fine picture. There are multitudes of figures, fine attitudes, and great expressions of passion. To ornament the distant prospect, he has committed some anacronisms, by placing among the buildings an amphitheatre, which was of far later invention, and the pantheon with the portico of Agrippa. Now Pompey was the first who made a lasting theatre: before him they were temporary, and often destroyed by publick authority. Statilius Taurus built the first amphitheatre, in the fourth consulship of Augustus. This action of Curtius happened in the year 391 U. C. and the portico was built by Agrippa (who died 741 U. C.) in his
third

third consulship, as appears by the inscription still remaining: M. Agrippa L. F. Cos. III. fecit. The story of this exploit is thus told by Livy: "Eodem Anno (viz. U. C. 391) seu motu terræ, &c." lib. 7. cap. 6.—This picture, and its companion, belonged to Gibbins the carver.

17. Fowl market, by Rubens and Snyder.

18. Europe, a fine landscape, companion to No. 7, by Paul Brill.—The figures by Dominichino.

19. Dives and Lazarus, by Paul Veroneze.—There are few of him better than this: the building is particularly good. It belonged to Monsieur de Morville, secretary of state in France.

20. Expofing of Cyrus, by Castiglioni.—This subject is taken from Justin, lib. i. cap. 4.

21. Adoration of shepherds, (companion to No. 4.) by Old Palma.—This is taken from the collection of Monsieur de la Vrilliere, secretary of state in France. It cost 300l.

22. Shepherd and shepherdess, by Carlo Cignani.

On the West.

1. Abraham's sacrifice, by Rembrandt.—Abraham's head and the naked body of Isaac are very fine. The painter has avoided much of the horror of the story, by making Abraham cover the boy's face, to hide the horror from himself.

2. Scipio's continence, by Nicola Pouffin.—Painted with all the purity and propriety of an ancient bas-relief. The story is told by Livy, lib. 26. cap. 50. "Captiva deinde, &c."—This picture likewise belonged to Monsieur de Morville.

In the center.

3. Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar, (Gen. xvi.) by Pietro Cortona.—The great duke has a small sketch

for this, but reversed, and with the Sarah and other figures at a distance: the Hagar is much fairer than in this.

4. Child in the manger, by Guido Reni) or the adoration of the shepherds, octagon.—A most perfect and capital picture, not inferior to the Doctors. The beauty of the Virgin, the delicacy of her and the child, (which is the same as in the Simeon's arms in the saloon) the awe of the shepherds, and the chiaro oscuro of the whole picture, which is in the finest preservation, are all incomparable. You see the shepherds ready to cry out one to another, "Deus, Deus ille, menalca!" There is one of this same design in the church of the Chartreuse at Naples, large as life, oblong, with many more figures, but unfinished. This belonged to M. de Morville. It cost 500l.

5. Old man and sticks, by Salvator Rosa.

6. Moses striking the rock, (companion to No. 2.) by Nicola Pouffin.—There is a great fault in this picture. Moses is by no means the principal figure; nor is he striking the rock angrily, and with a great air, but seems rather scraping out the water. The thirst in all the figures, the piety in the young man lifting his father to the stream, and the devotion in others, are extremely fine. It was painted for Stella, and bought of a French nobleman in the beginning of the last war between France and the emperor Charles VI. who declared he sold it to pay for his campaign equipage.

On the North, or Chimney Side.

1. Fish market, by Rubens and Snyder.

2. A sea-port, by Claude Lorain.—A very fine picture. There is a bright sun playing on the water, and the whole shine of the picture is in his
very

very best manner. It belonged to Monsieur de Morville.

3. A landscape, by Gasper Pouffin.—'Tis in his dark manner, but fine. This and No. 14, its companion, were in the collection of the marquis di Mari.

Over the chimney.

4. Is that capital picture, and the first in this collection, the Doctors of the church. They are consulting on the immaculate conception of the Virgin, who is above in the clouds. This has been a most controverted point in the Romish church.

In the year 1387, the Dominicans were expelled the university of Paris for opposing the doctrine of the immaculate conception, and many of them were killed.

In 1438 the Council of Basil declared it immaculate; and, lastly, in 1655, Alexander VII. peremptorily determined it to be so.

In this picture, which is by Guido, in his brightest manner, and perfectly preserved, there are six old men as large as life. The expression, drawing, design and colouring, wonderfully fine. In the clouds is a beautiful virgin all in white, and before her a sweet little angel flying. After sir Robert had bought this picture, and it was gone to Civita Vecchia to be shipped for England, Innocent XIII. then pope, remanded it back, as being too fine to be let go out of Rome; but on hearing who had bought it, he gave permission for its being sent away again. It was in the collection of the marquis Angeli.—This picture cost 700l.

5. Jocunda, a smith's wife, reckoned the handsomest woman of her time, by Lionardo de Vinci.—She was mistress to Francis I. king of France. She would often sit half naked, with musick, for several hours

hours together, to be drawn by him. Mr. Richardson has another of them. This was Monsieur de Morville's.

Mezeray calls her La Ferroniere, and says, her husband being enraged at the king's taking her, caught on purpose a very violent distemper, which he communicated through her to the king, who never recovered it. The same story is told of lord Southesk and king James II. when duke of York.

6. Holy Family, with angels, by Valerio Costelli.

7. Virgin and child, by Dominichino.—Bought out of the Zambeccari palace by H. Walpole. It cost 230l.

In the center.

8. Meleager and Atalanta, by Rubens.—A cartoon, larger than life, brought out of Flanders by general Wade. It being designed for tapestry, all the weapons are in the left hand of the figures. Vid. Ovid's Metamorph. lib. 3.

9. Apollo, by Cantarini, contemporary with Guido.

10. Eagle and Ganymede, by Michael Angelo Buonoretti.—A subject often repeated, but with alterations. The king has one larger, and the queen of Hungary another, painted in Teniers's gallery. There is another in the Altieri palace at Rome.

11. The Salutation, by Albano.—A fine finished picture. The angels are much the same with those in the great picture by this master in the saloon.

Over the other chimney.

12. The prodigal son, by Salvator Rosa.—This fine picture was brought out of Italy by sir Robert Geare, and carried back by him when he went to
live

live there. Upon his death it was sent back to England to be sold. It cost lord Orford 500l,

13. Herb market, by Rubens and Snyder.

N. B. Besides these four markets by Snyder, viz. fowl, fish, fruit and herbs, there are two more of them at Munich, an horse and flesh market.

14. A landscape, by Gasper Pouffin.—Companion to No. 3.

15. A calm sea, by Claude Lorain.—Companion to No. 2. A most pleasing picture. There are two figures on the fore ground, Apollo and the Sybil. She is taking up an handful of sand, for every grain of which she was to live a year. Apollo granted her this boon as the price of her person, which afterwards she refused him. The promontory is designed for Cumæ, the residence of the Sybil.—Among the buildings are the ruins of the Castellum Aquæ Martiæ, with the trophies of Marius, which are now placed in the capitol.

On the East.

1. Moses in the bullrushes, by Le Scur.—Given by the duke of Montague.

2. Sheep and cows, by Teniers.—In his best manner.

3. The Last Supper, by Raphael.—It was in the Arundel collection, and is printed in the catalogue of those pictures: from thence it came into the possession of the earl of Yarmouth, and from him to sir John Holland, of whom lord Orford bought it. It is in fine preservation.

Over the door.

4. A dead Christ, by Ludovico Caracci.

5. Wise mens offering, by Carlo Maratti.—He has

has painted another of them in the church of the Venetian St. Mark at Rome.

6. A landscape, with a cascade and sheep, by Gasper Pouffin.—A very fine picture. It was bought at the late earl of Halifax's sale.

7. Solomon's Idolatry. 1 Kings xi. by Stella.—'Tis painted on black and gold marble, which is left untouched in many places for the ground. There are many figures finely finished, and several beautiful airs of womens heads.

Upon the marble table, a dead Christ.

The present earl of Orford has most generously given leave to Mr. Boydell to take drawings of the most capital pictures in this collection, to be engraved for the inspection of the public, and these drawings have been executed in a most masterly manner by those two ingenious artists, Mr. Joseph and Mr. George Farrington, who are greatly deserving the patronage of all noble encouragers of arts and sciences, like the present earl of Orford.

The arms of this earl are; topaz, on a fess, between two chevrons, diamond, three cross crosslets of the field,—the crest on a wreath, the bust of a man side-faced, couped proper; on his head a ducal coronet, and therein a long cap, ruby, charged with a catherine wheel, and tasseled at the top, which was the crest of the Roberts.—Supporters, on the dexter side, an antelope, pearl, attired proper; unguled, topaz, and gorged with a collar exchequette, topaz and sapphire, with a golden chain affixed thereto, parting between his fore legs, and reflexed over his back. On the sinister, an hart, pearl, attired proper, unguled and gorged with like collar and chain, Motto, "Fari quæ sentiat."

It

It is to be observed that this account of the family is taken chiefly from ancient records, and for a larger account, Mr. Collins on the peerage, may be consulted.

The church of Houghton is a regular pile, having a nave, a north and south isle covered with lead, with a steeple, and is dedicated to St. Martin.

This church was rebuilt by sir Robert Walpole, and in the middle of it was made a vault for the family, and sir Robert, with his eldest son, the late earl of Orford, are interred in it.

At the west end of the nave is a monument, raised about a foot from the pavement, in form of a coffin; on the lid or cover, which is an entire piece of grey marble, is carved a curious antique figure of a prior, or abbot, in his robes, his hands spread on his breast, above them a cross, his head shaven, a dæmon couchant at his feet. It appears to have been made in the reign of Edward I. in memory of a prior of Coxford, from whence, as tradition reports, it was brought here after its dissolution.

Near to this, on a marble grave-stone, with a plate of brass, — *Orate p. aia.* — *Pyckard de Howeton, qui obt. xvii Die Januar. A°. Dni. m. vc. x°.*

On the pannels of the screen, between the nave and chancel, are the arms of Walpole, impaling Harlike; — or, on a fess, between two chevronells, three cross crosslets, sable, Walpole; and or, a chief indented sable, Harlike; also Walpole impaling, azure, fretty argent, Echingham.

At the east end of the south isle lie several marble grave-stones, viz. Walpole, in a lozenge, and *M. S. — Catherina, filia natu maxima præhonorabilis Roberti Walpole et Domine Cather. uxoris, nata 30, Maii 1703, denata 11, Oct. 1722.*—*Edwardus Walpole Armiger, filius natu maximus Roberti et Mariæ, sepulius est, 3º. Febr. 1697 Ætat. 22º.* with the arms of Walpole.—*Mary Turner, born April 28th 1693, buried January 21, 1694; and Mary Turner, born July 19, 1696, both daughters of Sir Charles Turner, Knt. and Mary his wife.*

Hic jacet Robertus Walpole Armig; juxta Susannam uxorem, filiam Edw. Barkham de Southacre in com. Norf. Militis, quæ obt. Aº. Dni. 1622; natus fuit 23, Sept. Aº. Dni. 1593, denatus fuit festo Sancti Philippi et Jacobi A. D. 1663, with the arms of Walpole, impaling. argent three pallets gules, and a chevron over all, or, Barkham.

In the chancel lie several marble grave-stones.—*Maria uxor Robti. Walpole Armiger; quam filiam habuit unicam Galfridus Burwell, miles, de Rougham, in agro Suffolc. Annos nata ad octo et quinquaginta mortem, obt. 14 Martii 1711.* With the arms of Walpole, and in an escutcheon of pretence;—or, a chevron ermine, between three burdock leaves proper, Burwell.—*Robertus Walpole Armig; filius natu maximus, Edw. militis Balnei et Susannæ, hic sepultus est decimo octavo die Noæ. Aº. Dni. 1700, Ætat. suæ Quinquagesimo, Ex decem quos genuit filiis, supersuerunt Robertus, Horatio, Galfridus; ex filiabus septem, Maria, Dorothea et Susanna.* With the arms of Walpole and Burwell.

H. I. Horatio Walpole Armig; filius natu minor Edw. Walpole, Balnei militis, qui obt. Quinquagenarius, 17 Oct.

Ord. A. D. 1717, with Walpole impaling, quarterly, ermine and azure, a cross or, Osborn,

Hic situs est Edv. Walpole, Balnei Miles, Robi. Walpole, armig. filius, qui Susannam, Robti. Crane, Baronetti de Chilton, in agro Suff. filiam connubio sibi junxit, major quadraginta quinq. annos, 18 die Martii, 1667, morte pia illustravit.

Cætera si quæras narrabit fama superstes.

Walpole, and in an escutcheon of pretence,—argent, a fess between three cross crosslets fitchee, gules, Crane.

Domina Susanna a latere Edv. Walpole, Balnei Militis, hic conditur, quæ obt. 7 Julii, A°. Dom. 1667, Ætat. 35.

The patronage is in the present earl of Orford, and the vicar, presented by his lordship in 1768, is the Rev. Anthony Carr, vicar of Shernborne.

KETTLESTON, called Katestuna, and Kettlestuna, in Doomsday-book. Kat, or Cat, is the name of a river, or water; thus Catwick in Yorkshire, Catworth in Huntingdonshire, &c. and Catter, or Catre, a river in Rutlandshire.

Part of this town was a beruite to the king's manor of Fakenham, at the survey, and held by king Harold before the conquest.

HAUVILE'S, or POMFRET'S MANOR. This was granted to Ralph de Hauvile by king Henry II. to be held of the crown by *petit serjeanty*, the keeping the king's falcons, together with Dunton.

After

After this it was possessed by sir Robert Knollys, and was settled on his hospital, or college, at Pomfret; and in the 3d of Henry V. John Stedman, &c. as master of that house, was seised of a moiety of this town, anciently royal demefne, and no part of the dutchy of Lancaster.

After the dissolution of the aforefaid hospital, it was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to sir William Fermor and sir Richard Fulmerstone, and sir William died seised of it in 1558; on whose death Catherine, his lady, possessed it, and brought it by marriage to Nicholas Mynne, esq.

Sir William Drury was lord in the 22d of Elizabeth, and aliened it, with the queen's licence, to Thomas Taverner, who by his will, dated April 10, 44th of the said queen, grants the manor of Pomfret's to his wife Mary for life. Robert was his son and heir, aged 31, who dying September 5, 1612, left by Ann, his wife, a daughter and sole heir, Mary, being married to Francis Shouldham, esq. son and heir of William Shouldham, esq. who died April, 1655, aged 84, whose immediate heir and descendent, Robert Shouldham, M. D. succeeded to it, and his heirs at present enjoy it; the principal of which is the Rev. Mr. Robert Rolfe, rector of Hilborough near Swaffham, who was his nephew.

Francis above-mentioned was son of William Shouldham, esq. and brother to Humphry Shouldham, esq. the sons of John Shouldham, esq. lord of Marham and Shouldham, which John died in 1551, and Humphry died lord in 1566; this William married Dorothy, daughter of John Smith, of Blackmore in Essex, esq.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. Part of this town belonged to the earl Warren's lordship of East-Basham,

The family of De Hyndryngham had antiently an interest herein: Ralph and William de Hauvile confirmed by deed, *sans date*, to William, son of Hamon de Hyndryngham, all the rent, &c. which they were to receive of their tenants in Kettleston.

In the 28th of Edward III. sir Saier de Rochford conveyed it to Ralph de Rochford, his son, and Maud his wife, from whom it came to the Welbys, &c.

Sir William Fermor died possessed of it in the 1st of Elizabeth, and his lady Catherine brought it to Mynnes, and so came to Taverner and Shouldham, as is above shewn, being united to the manor of Hauvile's or Pomfret's.

The lordship of Fulmondeston extended into this town, and was held by the Grancourts.

It went with the lordship of Fulmondeston, and was in the crown, on the death of Henry Stafford, duke of Bucks, in the reign of Richard III.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory.

In the year 1721, the Rev. John Branthwayte, brother of Miles Branthwayte, esq. of Hethel near Norwich, and father of the present Miles Branthwayte, esq. of Taverham, was presented to this living by the late king George I. The present rector is the Rev. Mr. James Cory, presented in 1766.

PENSTHORPE, takes its name from its scite, a thorp or village, by a river or water, called Pen. In Doomsday-book it is wrote Penestorpa, and was then the lordship of Rainold Fitz-Ivo, who had many lordships granted to him by the Conqueror, all which came into the family of the earls of Clare.

In the 3d of Edward I. Simon Fitz-Richard was found to have the affize of bread and beer, free warren, and a gallows.

In 1351, sir Hamon de Felton presented to the rectory of this church, as lord.

John Spoo was lord after this, in right of Nicholaa, daughter and heir of Richard Fitz-Simon, who in the 13th of Richard II. conveyed it by fine, with the manor of Bawsey, to sir Robert Carbonel, knt.

Sir Richard Carbonel, by his will, dated Nov. 4. 1429, settled it in order to pay his debts; and Thomas Brigge, esq. of Salle, lord of this town and Wood-Dalling, died possessed of it in 1444.

Thomas Heydon, esq. a younger son of sir John Heydon, was lord in 1572: in the 29th of Elizabeth, William Heydon had a præcipe to deliver it to sir John Cotton, knt. and in the 33d of that queen, Thomas Croft, esq. had one, to render it to Edmund Stubble, esq.

In the 3d of James I. Edward Sulyard, esq. son and heir of sir John Sulyard, was found to die lord of this manor.

In the 5th of Charles I. Francis Houghton was found to die seised of it, held of the honour of Clare.

In 1720, Anthony Hamond, esq. of Wooton, was lord, and in that family it remains; Richard Hamond, esq. his son and heir, possessed it, and the present lord and patron is Anthony Hamond, esq. of West-acre High House. The Rev. Mr. Richard Hamond was presented to this living in 1768.

NORTON, or **PUDDING-NORTON**, was an hamlet or beruite, at the survey, belonging to the king's manor of Fakenham.

It is supposed to take its adjunct name of Pudding from its dirty scite, or by a stream of water; as Puddington, and Puddlebridge, in Devonshire; Puddlemere in Somerset, &c.

Edmund de Lexham, son of John de Lexham, was lord in the 6th of Edward I. and in the 26th of the said king, John de Lexham, as lord, held a court baron, had free bull and boar, and the assize of bread and beer.

In the 21st of Edward II. John de Mundeford, as heir to the de Lexhams, held this manor of the lord Scales, and he of the king.

By marriage it came to sir William Tindale, Knt. of the Bath, who died lord in the 12th of Henry VII. His grandson sold it to Richard Benson, esq. in the 13th of Elizabeth, who also sold it five years afterwards to Ferdinando Paris, esq. of Linton in Cambridgeshire, in which name it remained till 1698.

Sir Francis Andrews, one of the coheirs, purchasing the rights of Mary, wife of Charles Hacon, of Frances, wife of Peregrine Short, and of Philippa, the wife of John Hastings, became lord of this ma-

nor, and lived there in the year 1700. Sir Francis descends from Thomas Andrews, esq. who was high sheriff of Northamptonshire in 1587, and attended at the execution of Marv queen of Scots, at Fotheringay. He was succeeded by Robert Andrews, esq. of Harleston in the said county, who by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of William Gent, esq. was father of sir William Andrews, of Denton in Northamptonshire, created baronet, December 11, 1641; who by Catherine his lady, daughter of John Flamsteede, of Denton, had two sons; sir John, the eldest, dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother sir William, who (by Eleanor, daughter of Edward Atflow, esq. of Downham-hall in Essex, and his wife Eleanor, daughter and coheir of Philip Paris, esq.) left at his death, August 15, 1684, sir Francis Andrews, bart. who by his lady Bridget, daughter of sir Thomas Clifton, of Latham in Lancashire, had a son, William, a lunatic, and a daughter, Bridget, married to Philip Southcote, esq. of Weybridge in Surry, a younger son of sir Edward Southcote, of Witham in Essex, who was the late lord, sir Francis having resigned it to him.

HEMPTON PRIORY MANOR, extended into this town. The lord Bardolf held it of the earl Warren.

After the dissolution, king Henry VIII. granted it, Sept. 9, in his 37th year, to sir William Fermor, and Thomas Fermor, esq. his nephew, sold it to Richard Benson, esq. from whom it came to the Paris's, &c. and was united to the capital manor abovementioned.

In the 24th of Edward III. Thomas Perte, of Wadeton, and Elizabeth his wife, confirmed to Hamon de Wodenorton, and Joan his wife, and the heirs

heirs of their bodies, all the lands, tenements, and fold-course in Pudding-Norton.

In the 5th of Henry V. it appears that there were two manors, called Newhall and Pekhall, and the scite of Newhall was by the church.

William Lamming conveyed it to Richard Benson, and so this came also to the Paris's, &c. and to sir Francis, and to Southcote, who was lord of the whole village.

The church, which is now in ruins, was dedicated to St. Margaret.

The Rev. Michael Bridges was presented to this rectory in the year 1744, by Charles Cooper Morley, esq. of Baslam, formerly high sheriff of the county of Norfolk.

RAINHAM, (or Reineham, as it is wrote in the book of Doomſday) EAST, SOUTH and WEST, takes its name from being seated near a running stream of water, or river; Rye and Rey, signifying as much in the Saxon tongue; thus we find a town in Essex, in the hundred of Chaffard, Rainham, on a river near its falling into the Thames; and thus Braintree, in Essex, occurs in Doomſday by the name of Raine, being by a river. Thus the river Rhine, and Reineburgh, a city in Germany, on that river.

At the grand survey it is placed in the hundred of Brothercrofs, but at this time (and for several centuries past) is accounted as a part of the hundred of Gallow; and great part of this town was then one of the lordships which the Conqueror bestowed on Hugh de Montfort, one of his Norman

chiefs and barons. Bond, a noble Saxon thane of great possessions, held it in the Confessor's time, together with many other lordships in Norfolk.

South Rainham was then a beruite, that is, a lesser manor, and depending on this.

This lordship, held by Hugh de Montfort, was afterwards divided, and held by two different families, the Inglethorpes, and the Scales.

INGLETHORPE'S MANOR, takes its name from its lords, who appear from ancient records to be seised of it in the reign of king John and Henry III. a family of great eminency in the county of Norfolk.

Sir Thomas de Ingaldesthorp was son and heir of Alan, and is termed in old records *the Red*: he is mentioned in the pipe rolls of the 8th year of king John, and in the 3d of Henry III. and was sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in or about the 8th or 9th of that king; as was Hubert de Ingaldesthorp in the 5th of the said king. Sir Thomas was accessory in a murder in the 9th year of king John.

Thomas, son of the abovementioned sir Thomas, was also a knight, sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1272, and died soon after. Thomas de Ingaldesthorp, bishop of Rochester, was one of his sons, and sir John de Ingaldesthorp was his son and heir, and was summoned amongst the barons to attend the king in the Welsh wars.

On the death of sir John de Ingaldesthorp, in or about 1282, Thomas was found to be his son and heir, aged 22. In the 13th of Edward II. he appears to be a knight, and a commissioner for the
bank,

banks and sewers of Marshland in Norfolk, as lord of Wimbotsham.

He was succeeded by his son sir John, who lived at Rainham, and the family before him, for many years.

Among the mortuaries received by the convent of Marham, about the year 1407, (in which year she is said to have died) we find this :—*Received for the lady Alianore's mortuary, late wife of Sir William Ingaldeshorp, a mantle furr'd with grey.*

Isabel, only daughter and heiress of sir Edmund Ingaldeshorp, who died in 1456, married John Nevill, created marquis Montacute, (and Knight of the Garter, second son of Richard earl of Salisbury, and brother to Richard the great earl of Warwick) and afterwards on the attainder of the earl of Northumberland, had that honour also conferred on him by king Edward IV. which last title he was obliged soon after to resign, the attainder aforesaid being taken off. The marquis, with his brother Guy, earl of Warwick, were both killed in the battle of Barnet, April 14, 1471, fighting against king Edward IV.

Upon a division of the estate of the Ingaldeshorpes, &c. which was not till in or about the 11th of Henry VII. this manor of Rainham, with that of Wimbotsham in Norfolk, Saufton, &c. in Cambridgeshire, came to Isabella, married to sir William Huddleston, of Millum Castle in Cumberland.

In the year 1543, sir John Huddleston, her grandson, appears to have been lord of this manor, and to have sold it to sir Roger Townshend, knt.

This

This lordship being thus conveyed into the family of Townshend, wherein it remains at this time, it will be proper in this place to treat of the same, from ancient records and authentic evidences.

It is undoubtedly a family of great antiquity in this county: Collins, in his history of the peerage, says, that Lodowic, or Lewis, a Norman, surnamed Townshend, soon after the conquest, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Haywell, (rather Hauvile) and was succeeded by sir Walter de Townshend, who took to wife Maud, daughter of sir Roger Scogan, knt.—But this will appear to be a great mistake. The family is wrote in old deeds, &c. *Ad Exitum Villæ*.—*William ad Exitum Villæ*, that is, Townshend, or Tunnesend, held considerable lands of the prior of Norwich's lordship in Taverham, in the reign of king John.

Stephen, son of Walter Atte Townshend, lived in the reign of Henry III. and about the same time lived Thomas Atte Townshend, of West Harling, possessed of a valuable estate, &c. and sealed then with a chevron, between three escallops, the arms of the family at this day.

Thomas, son of William Atte Townshend, of Snoring Magna, lived in the said town, settled all his estates in that town, Snoring Parva, Thorpeland and Baslam, in Norfolk, on John his son and heir, by deed, dated July 11, 1377, wherein he mentions Roger, his brother.

John, son of John aforesaid, was living at Snoring Magna in 1378 and 1396; he added much to the family estate, and held part of a fee in Rainham Magna and Parva, of Roger Mortimer earl of March,
of

of the honour of Clare, in 1398, and was the first of the family that settled at Rainham, or had any interest therein.

About the year 1400, sir Walter de Townshend was living, son of sir Lodowick de Townshend, whom Collins places at the head of this family, and says that he married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Hauville, and to have lived soon after the conquest: that Collins is mistaken, in respect of the time that sir Lodowick lived, appears from this proof; sir Walter aforesaid married Maud, daughter of sir Roger Scogan, knt. by whom he had a son Roger.

Roger, son of sir Walter, took to wife Catherine, daughter of John Atterton, esq. of Suffex, and was father of sir Thomas Townshend, whose wife Agnes was daughter of Willian Payne, Gent.

This sir Thomas was buried in the choir of White Friars church, in Fleet-street, London: and on the 1st of April, 1421, letters of administration were granted to Agnes, relict of sir Thomas Townshend, and Roger Townshend. of Rainham, (son and heir of sir Thomas) of the goods of Thomas Payne, probably brother of Agnes, (Collins says Eleanor) which family held a lordship in Helhoughton, and their estate came to the Townshends. The said Roger Townshend, esq. was a feoffee for the manor of Welborne, in Forehoe hundred, in 1444, and married Eleanor, daughter of sir Thomas Gigges, of Rollesby in West Flegg.

John, his son and heir, succeeded. Joan, his wife, was daughter and heir of sir Robert Lunsford, of Rumford in Essex, and was buried in the middle of the body of the church of St. Mary in Rainham.

Roger Townshend, esq. son and heir of John and Joan his wife, was entered a student of Lincoln's-Inn, elected a governor of that society in the first year, &c. of king Edward IV. and Lent reader. In 1461, the third part of the manor of Hauvile's, in Rainham, by fine levied, was conveyed to him by Henry Argenton. He was member of parliament for Calne in Wiltshire; and in 1476, purchased by fine of Roger Oliver, of London, Sherman, and Elizabeth his wife, their interest or part in Hauvile's lordship, so that the whole was now in this family.

In the 17th of Edward IV. he was called to the degree of serjeant at law; in 1480 summoned to be an assistant to the house of lords in parliament; in the 1st of Edward V. king's serjeant at law; and, in the following year, was appointed a justice of the common pleas. King Henry VII. renewed his patent, and knighted him in his chamber at Worcester, on Whitsunday before his coronation.

He married Anne, daughter and coheiress of sir William Brews, of Stinton-hall in Norfolk, who brought him that manor, and a great inheritance in land: by this lady he had six sons and six daughters, Roger, John, Robert, George, Thomas and Giles; of the daughters, Thomaſine was the wife of sir Thomas Wodehouse, of Kimberley, knight of the Bath; — to Anthony Castell, of Raveningham, esq. Anne betrothed to Philip Cressener, of Attleburgh, esq. Susan wife of sir Edward Windham, of Felbrigg; and Catherine, of sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh.

Judge Townshend died Nov. 9, 8th of Hen. VII. and his lady some years after. They were buried in the chancel of St. Mary's church, East Rainham.

Roger,

Roger, eldest son of the judge, was bred to the law, and, among other gentlemen of worth and dignity of this county, was appointed a commissioner by act of parliament, for assessing, &c. a subsidy of one hundred and sixty-three thousand pounds, by a poll-tax, in the 5th of Henry VIII.

In the 10th of the said king, he covenanted to serve the king with ten men at arms; was thrice sheriff of Norfolk; in 1525 received the honour of knighthood; (Collins says it was on the king's return from Bulloign, anno 37th of Henry VIII.) was one of the masters in the court of requests in 1529; and in the said year one of the king's council, with the bishop of Lincoln; and a feoffee of the manor of Kilverston for the duke of Norfolk, and had of the manor of Scales, in Rainham, from the king.

In 1543, he purchased of sir John Huddleston the lordship of Ingoldesthorpe, in this town, and in the following year, in commission with the duke of Norfolk, &c. to raise a benevolence for the king; and knight of the shire in parliament, anno 33d of the said king; and by a letter from the duke of Somerset, dated at the Tower, Feb. 12, anno 1st of Edward VI. required, with the earl of Suffex, sir William Paston, &c. on the death of Henry VIII. to take care of the peace of the said county.

He died Nov. 20, 1551, and was buried in the chancel of East Rainham church. He constitutes Roger, the grandson of his brother John, heir to his lordships, lands, &c. in East, South and West Rainham, Helhoughton and Barmer; lands, &c. in Over and Nether Guist, Twyford, Wood-Norton, Bintre, Broomsthorpe, Tofts, North Bassham, Shereford and Saham; the rectory of Barwick; lands, &c. in Stanhoe, Ryburgh Parva, and Oxwick.

John Townshend, esq. second son of the judge, lived mostly at Brampton in Suffolk; by Eleanor his wife, daughter of sir John Heydon, of Bacansthorne, knight of the Bath, he had Richard his eldest son. This John died August 4, 1540, before his eldest brother sir Roger.

Robert, the third son, married Alice, daughter and heir of Robert Poppy, esq. of Lincolnshire; was serjeant at law, a knight, justice of Chester, steward of Pentney priory, had a pension on its dissolution, lord of South-Hall, in Over and Nether Guist, of Wood-Norton, Twyford, and Foxleys, had the rectory of Guist and advowson of the vicarage, seised also of the Augustine friery of Ludlow, in Shropshire; died in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, leaving Thomas his son and heir, (as was found by an inquisition taken at Salop, Aug. 11, 1556) aged 22: from him descended the Townshends of Bracken-ash in Norfolk, of Gloucestershire and Shropshire,

George Townshend, esq. was the fourth son, and married a daughter of sir Richard Thurston, sheriff of London in 1516, and had a son Giles. George was executor to his brothers Thomas and Giles, and living in 1554.

Thomas, the fifth son, from whom descended the families at Testerton, Cranworth, and Wretham.

Giles was the sixth son: to him sir Robert his brother, on December 3d, in the 35th of Henry VIII. then serjeant at law, granted the rectories of Whitwell and Barwick, the manor of Guist, the rectory and manor of Ryburgh Parva, with the manor and rectory of Helhoughton in Norfolk, their
court

court leets, in all which (except Whitwell) they enfeoffed their brother Roger.

Richard Townshend, esq. son and heir of John Townshend, esq. (second son of the judge sir Roger, and brother to sir Roger Townshend, who died in 1550) was aged 22 at his father's death in 1540; he married Catherine, third daughter and coheir of sir Humphry Brown, of Ridley in Cheshire, a justice of the common pleas; died May 9, 1552. His wife survived him, and re-married John Roper, esq. of Eltham in Kent, master of the king's bench office. Richard had by her Elizabeth, married to Thomas Godsalve, esq. of Buckenham-Ferry, and a son Roger, his heir, and heir to his great uncle sir Roger, appointed by his will in 1550. This Richard lived also, as his father, at Brampton.

This Roger, son and heir of Richard, was a minor at his father's death, and proved his age in 1564. In the year 1588, we find him in the English fleet, in the fight against the Spanish armada; and on the 26th of July, in the said year, was knighted by the lord high admiral, Charles Howard, at sea, with the lord Howard, lord Sheffield, John Hawkins, and Martin Frobisher; and as the aforesaid lords had a principal command in the said fleet and engagement, so no doubt had this Roger, who is named next to them, and before Hawkins and Frobisher.

He died at Newington by London, June 30, 1590, and was buried in the church of St. Giles, Cripple-gate, at London. By Jane his lady, youngest daughter of sir Michael Stanhope, of Shelford in Nottinghamshire, (ancestor of the earls of Chesterfield and Stanhope) he left John, his eldest son, and Robert, created a knight in 1603; and married Ann,
daughter

daughter of William lord Spencer, who died: fir Roger's lady furviving him, re-married Henry lord Berkeley.

John Townshend, fon and heir of fir Roger, married Ann, daughter and coheir of fir Nathaniel Bacon, of Stifkey, or Stuky, in Norfolk; was lord of that town, of Langham and Merston. In a duel with fir Matthew Brown, died of his wounds on August 2, 1603, leaving Roger his eldest fon, and Stanhope his second fon, who died also of his wounds in a duel in the Low Countries, and unmarried. His lady furvived him many years, dying May 20, 1630, and was buried at Rainham. Ann, their daughter, married fir John Spelman, fon and heir of the renowned fir Henry Spelman.

In 1591, we find John Townshend, esq. of Norfolk, to give the senior proctor's staff to the university of Cambridge, of which he had been a member, in Trinity college; and probably was this fir John, who was knighted for his valour by the earl of Essex at Cadix, in Spain, in 1596.

Roger, his fon and heir, was a minor, aged eight years on his father's death, created a baronet April 16, 1617: on the 20th of May, 1620, he had licence to travel for three years, with three servants, and necessaries, but not to go to Rome, as appears by the council book. He built the present seat of Rainham-hall, and was knight of the shire for Norfolk. By Mary his wife, daughter and coheir of Horatio Vere, lord Vere of Tilbury, of the noble family of the Veres, earls of Oxford, he had Roger and Horace, his two sons, and five daughters: Mary, married to Thomas lord Crew, of Stene in Northamptonshire; Jane, to John Windham, esq. Ann,

to William Cartwright, of Aynhoe in Northamptonshire; Elizabeth, who died single; and Vere, to Sir Ralph Hare, bart. of Stow-Bardolph. He died January 1, 1637-8, aged 41, having granted three or four of his appropriations to the church.

The lady Mary, his relict, married Mildmay Fane earl of Westmoreland, by whom she had Vere Fane, earl of Westmoreland, and dying in 1673, was buried at Rainham on the 22d of May,

RAINHAM-HALL, built by the last-mentioned Sir Roger Townshend, bart. is perhaps the most delightful situation in the county of Norfolk, and has been greatly improved by the present lord. The park and woods are beautiful, and the lake below an object peculiarly striking. Extensive lawns, and opening views into the country, enrich the enlivening prospect all around. The country cultivated, and teaming in the summer months with fruitful crops of various hues, while the blended shades of green and yellow distinguished through the trees, display the bounties of nature in its most enchanting pride.

The house was built by that unrivalled artist Inigo Jones. There are several very valuable pictures in it; amongst the rest, a picture of Belisarius, the Roman general, distinguished by a reverse of fortune scarcely ever experienced but by himself: this picture was given to Charles lord viscount Townshend, secretary of state, by the late king of Prussia. Some connoisseurs are of opinion, that it is not the picture of Belisarius, but of Caius Marius.

PICTURES at RAINHAM.

In the common Dining Parlour.

Sir John Townshend, Ætat. suæ 28, 1599.

Captain Townshend and Mr. Pelham, by Jervase.

Three pieces of fowls, very good,

Lord Townshend, when young, by sir Godfrey Kneller.

Withdrawing Room.

Lord Townshend's second lady, 1722, (half length) by sir G. Kneller.

Col. Townshend's lady, (half length) by Jervase.

Governor Harrison, (whole length) by ditto.

His lady (whole length) by ditto.

Lady Westmoreland, Lord Townshend's grandmother.

Two landscapes of beasts, exceeding good.

Grand Dining Room.

Queen Anne, whole length, by sir G. Kneller.

King George I. (ditto) by ditto.

King George II. (ditto) by Jervase.

Queen Caroline, (ditto) by ditto.

Mr. Thomas Townshend, by ditto.

Withdrawing Room.

Two sons of Lord Townshend, in one picture, by sir G. Kneller.

Dutchess of Newcastle, by Jervase.

Dutchess of Dorset, by ditto.

Family picture of Lord Townshend's seven children, by ditto.

Two ladies, (half lengths) by sir Peter Lely.

In

In the Saloon.

Whole lengths of Officers.

Over the chimney.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Lord Vere, commander. | |
| 2. Sir Simon Harcourt, serjeant-major. | |
| 3. Sir John Burroughs | } Captains. |
| 4. Sir William Lovelace | |
| 5. Capt. Febel | |
| 6. Sir Michael Everard | |
| 7. Sir John Borlace | |
| 8. Sir Thomas Wynne | |
| 9. Capt. Milles | |
| 10. Sir Thomas Gates | |
| 11. Sir Jacob Aftley | |
| 12. Sir Henry Peyton | |
| 13. Sir Robert Carey | |
| 14. Sir Andrew Lewkener | |

Some of them are drawn much better than the rest, viz. No. 1, 3, 4, 12, which seem to be by Cornelius Johnson; No. 14 is said to be by Lawfon; the rest are very uncertain.

Summer Parlour.

Whole lengths of Officers.

1. Sir Gerard Herbert.
2. Sir Edward Narwood, captain.
3. Sir Thomas Dutton, captain.
4. Sir Thomas Conway, captain.
5. Sir Edward Vere, lieutenant-colonel.
6. Sir John Borlace.

These are not near so good as the other; but like those, all in the dress of the times.

Dining Room above Stairs.

Lord Townshend, (whole length) by Kneller.

Lord Townshend's first lady, by ditto.

His lordship's second lady, copied after a picture of sir G. Kneller's.

Horatio lord Townshend, (whole length) by sir Peter Lely.

Horatio Townshend, second brother to my lord, (half length) by Richardson.

Horatio lord Townshend's lady, (half length) by sir Peter Lely.

Sir Roger Townshend's lady.

Over two doors.

Lord Lynn, (half length) by sir G. Kneller.

Lady Lynn, (ditto) by Jervase.

Lord Vere, (whole length) by ditto.

Belisarius, (a present from the king of Prussia) by Salvator Rosa.

Sir Roger Townshend.

Col. Townshend, third brother to my lord, (half length) by Riley, or Closterman.

Horatio lord Townshend, (half length) by sir Peter Lely, or Zouff.

Sir Joseph Ashe, (half length) by sir Peter Lely.

Sir Joseph Ashe's lady, a copy after sir Peter Lely.

Col. Townshend, third son to lord Townshend, by Jervase.

Lady Cornwallis, by ditto,

Sir Robert Walpole, (half length) by sir G. Kneller

Sir Robert's lady, by ditto.

King Charles II. by Riley.

Galfridus Walpole, esq. (half length) by Hudson or Jervase.

Lady

Lady Sunderland, (half length) by Jervase.
 King of Sweden.
 Lord Fairfax, by Lov. Bois.
 Sir William Jones and his lady.
 Achilles discovered in Lycomedes's palace.
 Lord Scarborough, in garter robes, by Kneller,
 King of Sardinia, a present from the king himself
 to commodore Townshend.

Some of these are now in other rooms.

Sir Roger Townshend, bart. eldest son of sir Roger afore said, (see page 100) was a minor at his father's decease; and, dying in his minority, was succeeded in honour and estate by his brother sir Horatio, a minor also, in ward to the King, born in 1630, created baron Townshend, of Lynn-Regis in Norfolk, April 20, 1661, and viscount Townshend of Rainham, December 11, 1682, was in great favour with Charles II. who paid him a visit at Rainham in 1671; was made lord lieutenant of the county of Norfolk, and city of Norwich, in 1662.

He married, in 1649, Mary, daughter and heir of Edward Lewkener, esq. son and heir of sir Edward Lewkener, of Denham in Suffolk, knt. who brought into the family that town, and other valuable estates. She died, in 1673, without issue, and was buried at Rainham on the 22d of May. His second lady was Mary, daughter of sir Joseph Ashe, of Twickenham in Middlesex, bart. by whom he had his son and successor Charles, and Roger Townshend, esq. member of parliament for Yarmouth in Norfolk, who died unmarried, May 22, 1709, and was buried at Rainham. His third son was Horace, member of parliament for Heytesbury in Wiltshire, and one of the commissioners of the excise.

H 2

Charles,

Charles, lord viscount Townshend, was born in 1675; king Charles and the duke of York were his godfathers. He was a nobleman of great honour, worth, and ability, as the posts that were conferred on him testify; a governor of the Charter-house, one of the privy-council, knight of the garter, sent ambassador by queen Anne to the States General, captain of the yeomen of the guard, a commissioner for the union, chose by king George I. one of the regency in his absence, principal secretary of state, appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, (which he declined) president of the council, and again secretary of state, in which office he continued till he resigned it in May 1730: his lordship was also lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Norfolk.

His first wife was Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas lord Pelham, by whom he had four sons; Charles, who succeeded him; Thomas, member of parliament for the university of Cambridge, one of the tellers of the exchequer; William, aid-de-camp to king George I. member of parliament for Yarmouth; Roger, member for Yarmouth on his brother's death, and captain of a troop of horse. Elizabeth, the daughter, married the lord Cornwallis.

By Dorothy, his second wife, daughter of Robert Walpole, esq. of Houghton, and sister to Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, he left George, lieutenant of a man of war; Augustus, captain of an East-India ship; Horatio, commissioner of the victualling office; and Edward, rector of Pulham in Norfolk, deputy clerk of the king's closet, D. D. prebendary of Westminster, and dean of Norwich.— This lord died on June 21, 1733. Dorothy, one of his daughters by this lady, married Spencer Cooper,

per, D. D. dean of Durham; the other, Mary, married the Hon. Edward Cornwallis, esq. member for Westminster.

Charles, his eldest son and heir, was summoned to parliament May 24, 1723, as lord Lynn, in the life of his father; was lord of the bed-chamber to king George I. commissioner of trade and the plantations; master of the jewel office; died at Rainham March 13, 1764. He married Audrey, daughter and heiress of Edward Harrison, esq. governor of Fort St. George in the East-Indies, and of Balls in Hertfordshire; by whom he had,

1. George, (king George I.) being his godfather.

2. Charles, who married the Hon. the countess of Dalkeith, relict of the earl of Dalkeith, son and heir to the duke of Buccleugh, member for Yarmouth, and paymaster of the king's forces.

3. Roger, a lieutenant-colonel, killed at Ticonderago in America.

4. Edward, who died young; and,

5. Audrey, an only daughter.

George, the present lord viscount Townshend, being bred to arms, was colonel of the 28th regiment of foot, brigadier, and gained much honour on the taking of Quebec, when the command of the army devolved to him by the death of Gen. Wolfe, who was killed in the heat of the action, and the second in command, Gen. Monckton, was carried off the field wounded. His lordship, after filling the important post of lord lieutenant of Ireland, was ap-

pointed master general of the ordnance, is a lieutenant-general, colonel of a regiment of dragoons, and one of his majesty's most honourable privy-council. He was knight of the shire for Norfolk, from 1747 till his accession to the peerage in 1764,

His lordship married the right hon. lady Charlotte, (only daughter and heir of the earl of Northampton) and lady baroness Ferrers of Chartley in her own right. Her ladyship died in Ireland, during the government of lord Townshend: her remains were brought to England, and interred in the family vault at Rainham, and her eldest son, George, succeeded to the barony of de Ferrers, baron of Chartley, and has taken his seat as lord Ferrers in the house of peers.

Lord Townshend has since married a daughter of Mr. Montgomery in Dublin, agent to most of the regiments on the Irish establishment, member of parliament for the borough of Ballynakill, and lately created sir William Montgomery, bart. of Macbiehill, Peeblesshire, North-Britain.—The present lady Townshend, with her two sisters, one married to Luke Gardiner, esq. member of parliament for the county of Dublin, and the other to the right honourable John Beresford, member of parliament for the county of Waterford, are esteemed amongst the most beautiful and accomplished women of the age.

His lordships arms are, azure, a chevron, ermine, between three escallops, argent, Townshend; and quarters, 1st. gules, a chevron, between three fleurs de lys, or, Hauvile, or Haywell;—2d. argent, a lion rampant, and crufily of cross crosslets, gules, crown'd, or, Brewse;—3. sable, a cross ingrailed, or, Ufford;—4. gules, a cross, argent, in
a bot-

2. bordure, engrailed, or, Carbonel;—5. argent, a chevron, gules, between three cross crosslets, fitchee, azure, Shardelow;—6. gules, a chevron, between three lions gambes, crest and erased, in a bordure, argent, Brown;—7. per bend, sinister, or, and sable, a lion rampant, counterchanged, Francis;—8. quarterly, ermine, and gules, Stanhope;—9. gules, on a chief, argent, two mullets, sable, Bacon;—10. quarterly, gules and or, in 1st quarter, a mullet, argent, Vere;—11. azure, three chevronels, argent, Lewkener.—Crest, a buck passant, diamond, attired, or:—supporters, on the dexter side, a buck, diamond, on the sinister, a greyhound, argent.—Motto, *Hac generi, incrementa, fides.*

SCALES MANOR. Another part or moiety of Hugh de Montfort's lordship came to the family of lord Scales. This moiety, or lordship, was that of South Rainham.

In a *computus* of the bailiff of this manor, anno 5th of Edw. III. we find wheat sold at 3s. 4d. per quarter, and about Lent at 8s. per quarter.—Barley at 3s. 4d.—Pease at 6s. 8.—Oats at 4s. 6d.—A bushel of hemp seed, 2s.—Six long hurdles, (clais) 6d.—A Scot (bought in 10 fat) 6s. 6d.—For the making of twelve capons, 1d.—For ten geese, 2s.—Four stone of cheese, 3s. 8d.—One bushel of salt, 4d.—Paid for threshing of wheat, 3d. per quarter.—Barley, 1d. *ob.*—Oats, 1d.—Pease, 3d.—For the fanning, or cleaning, (*ventilatione*) of nine quarters of corn, 2d.—For the mowing 22 acres of pasture, 9s. 2d. per acre, 5d.

Paid a carpenter for three days work, 10d.—A shepherd's, or neatherd's wages for one year, 3s.—A carter's, 40d.—A swineherd's, 12d.—For the carriage

carriage of a swan from this town to Wilton, by Brandon, with, &c. 2d.

For the farm of twenty-one new milch cows, and their calves, for one year, 6l. 6s. every cow valued at 6s. and ten calves were excepted of the best for the lady of the manor, (lady Scales;) and for the farm of nine hens, 2s. 3d. each hen at 3d.

In this family of the lord Scales it continued, till Elizabeth, the only daughter and heir of Thomas, lord Scales, the last of that ancient family, brought it by marriage to Anthony Woodville, earl Rivers, and lord Scales, who being attainted and beheaded in the reign of king Richard III. that king gave it, with many other lordships, to his great favourite, John Howard, duke of Norfolk; but on the accession of Henry VII. to the crown, that duke being attainted, it remained in the crown, till granted, in the 29th of Henry VIII. to sir Roger Townshend, and so continues, being united to the other lordships in this town.

HAVILE, or HAUVILE'S MANOR. This was the next capital manor in this town. At the survey it was in the hands of the Conqueror, and Godric took care of it, or farmed it of him.

This lordship remained in the crown many years, till king Stephen gave it, with other manors, to William de Caineto, or Cheyney, in exchange for Mileham; on condition, that if he or his son should like Mileham better, that they might renounce it, which Cheyney did soon after, and so was again lodged in the crown; and the said king granted it to the Hauviles, in whose possession it remained till the Townshends had it by marriage.

In

In 1333, James de Hauvile gave the king ten marks, for licence to have a fine to grant to Robert Tiffour and Maud his wife, the manors of Rainham and Dunton, and that they might regrant them to the said James, and Ann, daughter of of James Wace, and the heirs of James and Ann; and in 1345, sir James Hauvile was lord; and in 1354, Roger de Caſton, who was rector of Rainham St. Mary, was found to hold it in truſt.

Soon after, this lordſhip of Rainham-Hauviles came into the family of the Townſhends, by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heir of ſir Thomas de Haywell, or Hauvile, knt. to Lewis de Townſhend; as Collins, in his peerage, obſerves; but this does not appear from any records, or evidences, that we have met with; and if an heiress of Hauvile was married, as is above obſerved, only ſome part or portion of this manor came to the Townſhends by that marriage.

The Scogans, a family of good account, were about this time poſſeſſed of the principal part of this lordſhip, and had their reſidence here. Robert Scogan, of Rainham, was a witneſs to a deed of ſir Thomas de la Rivere, knt. lord of Sporle, in 1361. Thomas Scogan, eſq. was in the retinue of the great Norfolk commander, ſir Robert Knolles, in 1378, and attended John, king of Caſtile and Leon, and duke of Lancaſter, in his expedition into Spain,

John Scogan, of Eaſt-Rainham, clerk, was lord of Hauviles in 1379.

In 1391, John Scogan, (*Capellane*) aforeſaid, died ſeiſed of the manor of Hauviles, and Henry his brother

brother was found to be his heir. This was, as we presume, that Henry Scogan, famous for his wit and humour in the time of king Henry IV. who wrote a ballad directed (as Stow informs us) to prince Henry, the king's son, Thomas duke of Bedford, and Humphry duke of Gloucester, at supper with the merchants of London; an author out of whom the said historian (as he tells us) gathered materials, and was buried in the cloisters of Westminster abbey.

In 1420, William Champneys, of Oxwick, confirmed to William Marchall, esq. of East-Rainham, Thomas Scogan, &c. several lands in East-Rainham field and Oxwick,

About this time lived Walter de Townshend, who is said to have married Maud, daughter of sir Roger Scogan, who probably brought with her all Scogan's right in this manor. After this we find no mention made of any of that family as lords here: but in Edward IV.'s reign lived John Scogan, descended most probably from this family, a celebrated poet. Bale says, he was by nature a jocular and a witty man, profited so much in philosophy, and other liberal arts, that he was A. M. at Oxford, and was so greatly esteemed for his smart and witty expressions, that he was sent for by king Edw. IV. to court; where, as another Democritus, he turned all into jokes, mirth and laughter; published certain comedies, and a book, *Ad proceres Curiae*, &c. Sir Richard Baker also mentions him as a learned gentleman, and a student sometime at Oxford: from him came the proverb, *What says Scogane?*

John Townshend, esq. who lived in the reign of Henry VI. was undoubtedly lord of the manor of Hauviles,

Hauviles, died seised of it in 1465, from which time it has remained united to that of Ingoldesthorpe, &c.

BIGOT'S, or SHERBOURN'S MANOR. Roger Bigot had also at the survey a small lordship here.

This Roger Bigot was a principal commander under king William I. and attended him in his expedition into England, and was ancestor to the earls of Norfolk of that name; but on the marriage of his daughter Maud with William de Albini, the king's chief butler, ancestor to the earls of Arundel, it came to the said William, and seems to be held of the Albini's by the ancient family of Rainham, who took their name from this town.

Sir Edmund de Reynham, knt. was living in 1379.

After this we find no mention of the family of Rainham in this town.

In the reign of Henry VI. it came into the family of Townshend. Sir John Townshend held it in queen Elizabeth's time, and was found to die seised of it in 1603, and it remains united with the other manors in the said family.

The EARL OF CLARE'S FEE, Rainald, son of Ivo, had this lordship given him by the Conqueror,

In 1176, Pope Alexander III. by his bull, confirmed to John, bishop of Norwich, the lands which William Fitz-Boteri gave to him in West-Rainham.

John Atte Townshend was found to hold it of Roger Mortimer, earl of March; and in the family
of

of Townshend it appears to be in the years 1424 and 1459, and remains so at this time, being united to the other lordships.

Besides these lordships which were at the time of the conquest, there were also some little ones, or free tenements, which arose afterwards out of these principal ones, viz. Hall's, Payne's and Morehouse, found on the death of sir Roger Townshend, bart. to be held of the manor of Ingoldesthorpe, Staple's manor in Rainham, held of the manor of Hauviles, by foccage, and paying 2s. per ann.

Here was also the manor of Rouse's. In 1407, it was possessed by Henry Scogan; and in 1409, Robert Scogan enfeoffed certain persons in the manors of Rouses and Hauviles, and afterwards came to the Townshends, together with Hauviles; and John Townshend, esq. died seised of them in 1465.

NORMANSBURGH PRIORY. At a place so called in South-Rainham, William de Lifewis founded a little priory, about 1160, for the health of his own soul, that of Maud his wife, and Godfrey his son, dedicating it to the blessed Virgin, and St. John the evangelist, appointing it for a cell to the priory of Castleacre, and endowing it with lands. Several donations were afterwards given to this priory.

This manor came from the Lifewifes, by two daughters and coheirs, to the Ingoldesthorpes and Scales's.

The duke of Norfolk had a grant of it at the dissolution, and in 1554, on March 4, died seised of it; but in the 33d of Henry VIII. it was in the king's hands, and farmed of the king, called the
manor

manor of Lewsewils: afterwards it came to the Townshends, and in 1564 Roger Townshend held all those, late the duke of Norfolk's, called Normanburgh.

RAINHAM ST. MARY'S Church, In this town were three churches, of which this was the chief, called also East-Rainham, and is a rectory.

It consists of a nave, with two isles, and a chancel covered with lead, and has a four-square tower, and four bells. On the south side of it is a curious large dial, with a clock, erected at the charge of the late Charles, lord viscount Townshend, and on the north side of the church and chancel, a dormitory, but no monuments.

Against the north-east part of the chancel is a very fair tomb, but without any inscription, erected to the memory of sir Roger Townshend, the judge, agreeable to the will of the lady Elianore, his wife, with a canopy, &c. of stone work. On it were the arms of Townshend;—azure, a chevron, ermin, between three escallops, argent, and that of Hauvile's, quarterly;—gules, a chevron, or, between three de lys, argent,—impaling, quarterly, azure, a chevron, between three boars heads, coupé, or, Lunsford,—and argent, three chevronels, gules, a file in chief of three points, azure, Barrington.

On a marble grave-stone:—*Orate p. aia. Johs. Townshend, filii Rogeri et Elianore, qui obiit iiii die Octob. Ao. Dni. M.CCCC.LXV.*

Orate p. aia. Georgii Townshend, filii Rogeri Townshend, Armigeri.

Robert Wolvey, of Rainham Magna, buried here in 1524, gave by will to the repair of this church 3*l*. and a cross of silver of the price of 10*l*. and makes his special, and most trully master, sir Roger Townshend, supervisor of his will.

RAINHAM ST. MARGARET, OF WEST-RAINHAM. This church has a nave, and a north isle, covered with lead, and a chancel with tiles.

The patronage was anciently in the manor of Hauvile's, and was given by sir Thomas Hauvile, with one acre of land, to the priory of Miremond, in the isle of Ely, by fine, in 1316.

The Rev. Mr. Robert Adkin is rector of Rainham St. Mary's with St. Margaret's, consolidated Dec. 29, 1721, presented by lord Townshend in 1770.

RAINHAM ST. MARTIN, OF SOUTH RAINHAM. On the dissolution of Blackburgh priory, the rectory, and advowson of the vicarage, were granted May 5. anno 3*d* of Edw. VI. to sir Roger Townshend.

Soon after this it became a rectory again, and Henry Baldwin was rector.

This rectory was annexed to Helhoughton in 1748, and the Rev. Charles Allen was presented to the living by the late lord Townshend, the same year.

RUDHAM, EAST, was the lordship of the earl Warren, held by Ralph, ancestor of John de Cheyney, who founded Coxford priory, and whose daughter, Emma, brought it to Michael Belet, in 1150, by marriage.

This

This Michael was a judge in the 32d of Henry II. and high sheriff of Leicestershire, in the 29th, 30th, &c. of that king.

In the 16th of king John, Hervey Belet was lord, and had a grant of a fair to be held yearly. This Hervey gave to the priory of Coxford this lordship.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR, takes its name from its scite on a small stream, or rivulet, in this parish. Cock, or Cocker, occurs as the name of a river, as Cockermouth in Cumberland, Cockley, and Cockfield, in Suffolk.

John de Cheyney was a great benefactor, or founder of it, for canons of the order of St. Austin, who gave them the churches of East and West-Rudham, with their appurtenances.

Hervey Belet gave them the lordship of East Rudham, with lands in Geyton, Marham, Syderstone, Barmer, and Croftwick, &c. for the maintenance of an hospital at Boycodeswade, built by him, and a secular chaplain to serve therein for ever.

In the 11th of Henry III. the prior had a grant of a fair, which was confirmed in the 35th of the said king, with piccage, stallage, &c.

In this priory were an abbot and nine black canons.

King Hen. VIII. on the 9th of May, in his 29th year, gave the manor of East Rudham, with the scite of the priory of Coxford, the impropriate rectory, and patronage of the vicarage, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

In

In the 21st of Elizabeth, Philip Howard, earl of Arundel, son to the said duke, had licence to alien it to sir Roger Townshend, whose immediate heir, the Right Hon, George, lord viscount Townshend, is the present lord.

The abbey church was standing (as sir Hen. Spelman relates) in the reign of king James I. and in part of the abbey lived Henry Cornwallis, esq. (in the time of queen Elizabeth) and in a parlour here were the arms of the duke of Norfolk, in a garter; and in a chamber, azure, a chevron, between three crosses, pattee, or; Calybut, quartering, or, a saltire vert: crest) a greyhound, passant, azure, pierced on the shoulder with a martlet, argent.

Ann Calybut, daughter and] coheir of Edgar Calybut, serjeant at law, was second wife of the said Henry Cornwallis, esq.

A parcel of Roman coins, in a little pot, were said to be found in the ruins of the priory in 1719.

The church of East Rudham is dedicated to St. Mary, and was appropriated to the priory of Cox-ford.

In a south window of the chancel are the arms of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, France and England, quarterly, with a label of three points, ermine, impaling Castile and Leon, quarterly.

The present vicar is the Rev. Mr. Lancaster Framingham, presented by the present lord Townshend in 1771.

RUDHAM, WEST. Rudham, at the survey, included both East and West Rudham, being not at that time distinguished by the name of East and West, both which belonged to the earl Warren, the capital lord.

FERRER'S MANOR. This lordship was in the family of de Cheney, and came by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heir of William Cheney, son of Ralph de Caineto, to Hugh de Cressi, a Norman, in the reign of Henry II. whose son, Roger de Cressi, married Isabel, daughter and coheir of Hubert de Rie, and widow of Jeff. de Chester. This Roger being with the barons in arms against king John, his lands were seized, and given to Robert de Ferrers; and Henry de Ferrers was found to hold the fourth part of a fee in the reign of Henry II. Sir Guy de Ferrariis was living in the 15th of Edward I. as was Edmund de Ferrers, of West Rudham, in the 31st of the said reign, and John de Ferrers in the reign of Edward II. and one of the same name occurs in the 20th of Edward III.

William Ruffel, Gent. lord of this manor, married Agnes, daughter of Thomas Walpole, Gent. of Houghton, and had by her Thomas, his son and heir; and by Edith his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Austin, of West Rudham, left Henry his son and heir, who took to wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Calybut, of Coxford, esq. and was living in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and lord.

The Right Hon the earl of Orford is the present lord.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. At the dissolution, Thomas, the prior of Castle-acre, conveyed
 I this

this manor to king Henry VIII. in his 29th year; who soon after, December 22, in the said year, conveyed it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; and Philip, earl of Arundel, in the 21st of Elizabeth, had licence to alienate it to sir Roger Townshend, whose direct heir and successor the Right Hon. Charles lord viscount Townshend was lord, and now George, lord viscount, his son.

NORTHALL, OR ST. FAITH'S MANOR. From the family of Valoins it came to the lord Robert Fitz-Walter, (by the marriage of Gunnora, daughter and heir of the lord Robert de Valoins, who was lord of it in the reign of king John) and he granted it to the priory of St. Faith's, of Horsham.

King Henry VIII. on Feb. 16, in his 35th year, granted it to his beloved counsellor, sir Richard Southwell, and Edward Elrington, esq. together with the site of the priory of St. Faith's, in consideration of the nunnery of Denney, &c.

Richard Southwell, esq. was lord in the 8th of Elizabeth, and in the 15th of Elizabeth had a præcipe to render to sir Thomas Cornwallis his manor of Northall in West Rudham.

It was afterwards united to the manor of Ferrers, and was possessed by sir Roger Townshend in 1588, in which family it remains.

The temporalities of Coxford priory here, valued at 32s. 4d. per ann, in 1428. These were granted to the duke of Norfolk, with the impropriated rectory, the patronage of the vicarage, and afterwards came to the Townshends, as above.

The

The church of West Rudham is dedicated to St. Peter, and was given by Hervey Belet to the priory of Coxford, and appropriated thereto.

The patronage of this vicarage, as well as that of East Rudham, which were consolidated October 18, 1720, is in lord Townshend: the present vicar, being Mr. Lancaster Framingham, was presented to the living in 1771.

The chapel of All Saints, in the church-yard of St. Peter of West Rudham, is mentioned in 1493.

Thomas Austen, of West Rudham, by his will in 1557, was buried in the church. A grave-stone, with a brass: *In memory of Henry Russell, of West Rudham, Esq. who died September 3, 1606; and in the chancel a grave-stone for, Elizabeth Daniel, wife of Robert Daniel of London, merchant, who died 1626.*

On a grave-stone lately put down, in 1778, to the memory of Mr. William Money, farmer, and tenant to the lord viscount Townshend, his father and grandfather, who died in 1777:

*Titles and trophies deck the statesman's grave,
And pompous tombs immortalize the brave:
Yet rural virtue finds the road to fame,
And boasts no title but an honest name.
A plain good man lies here.—Heralds say more,
Who usher pageants at the abbey-door!
The path of honesty Will. Money trod:
"An honest man's the noblest work of God."
Vain epitaphs the author's genius show,
While all is dust, mere dust, that lies below:
'Tis all mere dust!—the rest the poet's wit,
Or whether 'tis Will. Money or Will. Pitt.*

RYBURGH MAGNA, so called from its seitiè by the river, as Ryfing, &c, was at the survey the lordship of Peter de Valoins; and Ralph Facto was enfeoffed of it by his lord, Peter de Valoins.

John de Munpinzun had a charter for free warren here, and in Ingoldesthorpe, in the 9th of Edward I.

In the 18th of Edward II. it was forfeited by Robert de Walkefare, probably on his taking part with the queen Isabel, and many of the barons, &c, against her husband.

It appears that the said Robert was restored on the accession of king Edward III.

In the 8th of Richard II. a fine was levied between Joan, widow of sir Thomas Felton, (who died in or about the 4th of that king) and sir John L'Estrange, knt. and Alianore his wife, daughter of sir Richard Walkefare, of this manor, those of Derfingham and Ingoldesthorpe, who for 500l. conveyed the same to the lady Joan, appearing by this to be a moiety of the said manors, &c.

In the 6th of Henry VI. this lordship seems to be in the Cokerells; and Catherine, widow of John Cokerell, senior, of Ashfield in Suffolk, possessed it; whose son John dying before her, left a daughter and heir, Catherine: she died possessed of it and the advowson, in the 10th of the said king.

On the dissolution, king Henry VIII. on the 10th of March, in his 30th year, granted it to sir William Butts, knight, and Margaret his wife, daughter and heiress of — Bacon, of Cambridgeshire, for life.
He

He was doctor of physick, educated at Cambridge, chief physician to the king, one of the founders of the college of physicians at London; in whose records he stands highly characterized for his eminent learning and knowledge, singular judgment, and great experience, and is much extolled for his learning by many authors, who lived in his time; was knighted by the name of William Butts of Norfolk, and dying the 17th of November, 1545, was buried in the church of Fulham, by London. He left three sons,

Sir William, the eldest, was lord of Thornage in Norfolk, who married Joan, the eldest daughter and coheir of Henry Buers, of Aketon, or Aeton in Suffolk, esq. he was eminent for his valour, and had an augmentation of honour on a canton in his arms, and was slain at Musleburgh Field in the 1st of Edward VI,

Thomas Butts, esq. the second son, was lord of this manor, and married Bridget, second daughter and coheir of Henry Buers, esq. aforesaid, but dying without issue, as his elder brother sir William did, Edmund Butts, esq. of Barrow in Suffolk, the third brother, was his heir, and lord of this town; and by Ann, third daughter and coheir of the aforesaid Henry Buers, had Ann, his only daughter and heir; who brought this lordship by marriage to sir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave in Suffolk, eldest son and heir of sir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper of the great seal, by Jane his first wife, daughter of William Fernley, esq. of Cretynge in Suffolk, who was created the first baronet in England, May 22, 1611, and sir Edward Bacon, bart. his descendent, died possessed of it.

Butts bore, azure, on a chevron, between three estoils or, as many lozenges, gules.

The church of Ryburgh Magna is a rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew.

On the north side of the chancel, an altar tomb with several arms, but no inscription. On a gravestone near it: *Sir Robert Bacon, of Redgrave in the county of Suffolk, Bart. deceased Dec. 16, 1655, and Dame Ann his wife, the 27th of Sept. 1640.*

The patronage of this rectory is in Mrs. Mary Bacon, eldest daughter of sir Edmund Bacon, late of Garboldisham, premier baronet of England, and many years knight of the shire for the county of Norfolk.

In the year 1761, the present rector, the Rev. Charles Mordaunt, son of sir Charles Mordaunt, bart. (knight of the shire for Warwickshire) and rector of Little Maffingham, was presented to this living by Mrs. Bacon.

RYBURGH PARVA, seems to have been held of the earl Warren by Peter de Valoins.

PAVELI'S MANOR. This seems to have been held by the ancient family of De Paveli, in Richard I.

In the 46th of Edw. III. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Talbot, ancestor of the earls of Salisbury, held in demean eight fees. She was daughter of John Comyn, of Badenagh, heir to Valence, earl of Pembroke, and held them of the castle of Acre.

Besides the family of Paveli, the family of Wood-Dalling held a part of this manor of the earl Warren,

Warren, and had a right in the patronage of the church, as will afterwards appear.

In the 4th of Henry VII. Roger Townshend, esq. and Ann his wife, held this lordship: in this family it remains, the right honourable George lord viscount Townshend being the present lord.

BINHAM PRIORY MANOR, The lord Valoins had a lordship also in this town, granted to him by the Conqueror,

Tyrus, who was enfeoffed of this lordship under the lord Valoins, was ancestor of the family of Wood-Dalling, and is sometimes called (as we take it) Turald de Daling.

At the dissolution, it came to the Pastons of —, and after to the Bacons; and sir Edmund Bacon died possessed of it in 1755.

ST. FAITH'S, OR HORSHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the 6th of Edward I, the prior held a part of the barony of Valoins.

At the dissolution it was granted, Dec. 3, anno 35th of Henry VIII. to Robert and Giles Townshend, esqrs. on the payment of 29s. 3d. *ob.* per ann. They were younger sons of sir Roger Townshend, who soon after had licence to alienate it to sir Roger, their brother; and sir John Townshend was found to die possessed of it in the 1st of king James I. in which family it remains, the right hon. George lord viscount Townshend being lord.

WOOD-HALL MANOR. It was in the priory of Walsingham, in the 3d of Henry IV.

At the dissolution it was granted to sir William Butts, M. D. from whose family it came to the Bacons.

The church is dedicated to All-Saints.

The rectory was granted by king Henry VIII. in his 33d year, to sir Thomas Paston, knt. with the patronage of the vicarage.

The Rev. Charles Mordaunt is the present rector of this and Great Ryburgh, consolidated June 18, 1750, being presented by Mrs. Bacon in 1761.

SCULTHORPE, was a lordship belonging to the earl Warren. It is called in the book of Doomſday Sculetorpa, a thorp on a shoal, or shallow stream, or water.

The family of De Pavili, or Pavilleys, were soon after the conquest enfeoffed of this lordship.

John, earl Warren and Surrey, by deed, dated at Lincoln August 5, in the 16th of Edward II. gave to sir Walter de Norwich this manor and advowson, in exchange for that of Skredington in Lincolnshire.

In the reign of Richard II. sir Robert Knolles, knight of the garter, and Constantia his lady, were possessed of this manor.

As this sir Robert was a person of remarkable merit and eminency, for his conduct and valour in his time, and as he lived and died at his manor-house in this town, we shall take the liberty of inserting several occurrences of his life, that we have met with from old evidences.

He

He is by most authors said to be born of mean parentage in the county of Cheshire, though Dugdale seems to suggest the contrary, as if descended from a family of note, or account, in their times: he was at first however a person of low fortune, but betaking himself to a military life, he became an eminent commander under king Edward III. in the wars in France, from being a common soldier, and acquired great fortunes; had a grant of White-castle, and that of Fenchery, in Britany; and in the 32d of that king, took the city of Auxerre, &c. for the king of Navarre.

In 1360, Constantia, his wife, sailed over into Britany, and carried to his assistance twenty men of arms, fourteen archers on horseback, &c. and had provided for him at her own charge, three ships and two crays; and in 1365, John duke of Britany, for his services, gave him many lands, &c.

In the 44th of the said reign, he was retained to serve the king again in the wars of France for two years, from the nativity of St. John the Baptist, in 1370, with two thousand men of arms, and two thousand archers; none of the men to be raised out of Northumberland, Durham, or Westmoreland; and so great was the destruction he made, that the sharp points, and gable ends of the houses, &c. that he overthrew, were called *Knowles's Mitres*.

In the 2d year of king Richard II. he was with John, duke of Lancaster, in his Spanish expedition, and had letters of protection then, dated July 16, being a knight of the garter.

In the 4th of Richard II. he had a grant of the manor of St. Pancras, in Middlesex, to him and his

his wife Constantia, and for his good services in subduing Wat Tyler's rebellion, was enfranchized a member of the city of London in the said year; and having made a vow to go to Rome, had, in the 13th of that king, a licence for himself and twelve persons, and for what money he would by a bill of exchange, and to stay there as long as he would, with protection for all his lands, tenants, and servants, during the time of his absence.

In the 3d of Henry IV. John Gerneys released to him, and sir Hugh Brown, knight, two messuages and thirty-four shops, in the parish of St. Mary at Hill, in Billingsgate ward, London, to be settled on sir Robert's college, or hospital, at Pontefract in Yorkshire.

He died full of years, aged 92, at his manor-house in this town, (Grafton says at London) on August 15, 1407, and was honourably buried in the body of the church of the Carmelite Friars, in Fleet-street, London, by his lady Constantia. Who this lady was does not appear from any historian that we have seen. In the church of Harpley, and in this of Sculthorpe, are the arms of sir Robert, who bore, for the most part, gules, on a chevron, argent, three roses of the first seeded, or, impaling argent, a fess dazure, between three leopards faces, sable, bore by Beverley, a family of good account in Yorkshire, which we presume was her name. Leland says she was of mean birth, and born at Pontefract in Yorkshire, and prevailed on her husband to found the college there, and not at Sculthorpe, as he intended. As a knight of the garter, he had supporters to his arms;—two naked savages, standing by two trees; the crest, a ram's head, as appears from his seal.

He

He obtained in the wars of France such immense wealth, that king Richard II. pawned several of his most valuable jewels and silver vessels to him; and as his fortunes were great, so were his charitable acts and works equal to them. He built the stately bridge at Rochester over the Medway, with a chapel, and a chauntry at the east end of it; the churches of Sculthorpe and Harpley, and re-edified the conventual church of the White Friars, for the most part,

In the 4th of Richard II. he had licence to amortise to the Carthusian priory, in London, 40l. per ann. out of the manor of Dunstall in Kent.

In the 8th of that king, licence was granted to him, and Constantia his wife, to found the college of Pomfret, in a house of theirs, and the king then incorporated them; and on June 11, in the 10th of Richard II. sir Robert granted to Robert Braybrook, bishop of London, sir John Cobham, knight, John Drew, clerk, and John Seymour of London, all his manors, lands, tenements, advowsons, &c. in Norfolk. This was in order to settle them on the aforesaid college.

In the 8th of Henry IV. sir Robert conveyed by fine to his trustees, John Drew, and John Seymour, of London, this lordship, with those of Dunton, Kettlestone, Tatterford, Tatterfet, Burnham, &c. and by an inquisition taken at East Rudham in Norfolk in the said year, on Tuesday after the Annunciation of the Virgin, before William Roos, the king's escheator, it was found that it would not be to the king's loss, &c. if he granted licence to John Drew, parson of Harpley, and John Seymour, of London, to give and assign to John Stedman, master, or custos, and the chaplains of the college of the Holy

Holy Trinity, called Knolles's Alms-house, in Pontefract, and their successors, the manors of Sculthorpe, Dunton, Kettlestone, Tatterford, Burnham-Overy, with the appurtenances, and the advowsons of the churches of Dunton cum Doketon, Tatterford, and Sculthorpe, for their maintenance, and that of the poor men therein, serving God; and it was then found that this lordship was held *in capite*, by the third part of a fee, and valued at 20l. per ann. beyond all reprises.

Leland observes, that it was a college, with an hospital joined to it; in the college was a master, with six or seven priests, and in the hospital thirteen poor men and women, and was valued at 180l. per ann. Besides the messuages, &c. in London, &c. above-mentioned, there was also one in Darlington settled on the said hospital.

On the dissolution of the said hospital, this lordship, with the advowson of the rectory, was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to sir William Fermor, and sir Richard Fulmerston; sir William dying seised of it, it came to his nephew, Thomas Fermor, esq. of East Basham, who, in the 24th of Elizabeth, aliened by licence five messuages, six tofts, two hundred acres of land, and one hundred and forty-seven of pasture, in this town and Fakenham, to Salathiel Kynderley, clerk.

William Fermor, esq. son of Thomas, was lord in 1627, whose daughter and heir, Mary, being married to James Calthorpe, esq. he was lord in her right, and she dying without any surviving issue, it came to his son, sir Christopher Calthorpe, who died seised of it in 1717, and by his daughters and co-heirs, to sir Thomas L'Estrange, bart. and on his death

death to sir Henry, his brother, as in East Basham, and on his death to his two sisters and their heirs.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, or All Saints.

In the chancel, on a brass,

*Here lyeth Sir John Brown,
Sometime Parish Priest of this town.*

This church is a rectory, and the patronage is in Daniel Jones, esq. of Cranmer, and his eldest son, Mr. Matthew Jones, is the present rector, presented in 1767.

During the life of the late lord Townshend, the present lord Townshend resided at Cranmer for many years, and greatly improved and ornamented the house and buildings.

SHERFORD, alias SHERINGFORD. In Doom-day-book it is wrote Sciraforda, that is, a ford over a clear water, and was the lordship of the earl Warren.

Sir Richard de Plays was lord of this manor in the time of Henry VI. whose daughter and heiress married John earl of Oxford.

The Wingfields, and lord Latimer, were lords of it in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

The family of the Townshends were after lords of Plays manor in Sherford, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; and sir Roger Townshend, bart. in 1630, in which family it remains, the right hon. George lord viscount Townshend being the present lord.

In

In this town was a water-mill, with twenty acres of land, held of sir John Howard's manor, which belonged to Knolles's hospital at Pontefract; and at the dissolution of it were granted to sir William Fermor, and sir Richard Fulmerston, anno 3d of Edward VI. May 14, and was part of the manor of Tatterford.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

The patronage of Sherford is in lord Townshend, who presented the Rev. Mr. James Cory to the rectory in 1766.

SNORING PARVA, alias NAREING. The king's manor of Fakenham extended into this village.

This was possessed by the family of De Hauviles; by *petit serjeanty*; after them Thomas de Milcham, in the 8th of Edward III. and afterwards by Nicholas de Attechurch.

The earl Warren had also two socmen, with lands here, belonging to his manor of North Baslam.

But the principal lordship was, at the survey, in Peter de Valoins.

WALCOTE and BOLES MANOR. Ralph, who held this lordship under the lord Valoins, was probably the ancestor of the family of De Snaring, of this town.

Ralph Le Strange was found to be heir in the 33d of Edward I.

Robert

Robert de Berney, and Margaret his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of of fir Walter de Walcote, had this manor.

Catherine, widow of John Cokerell, of Albergh Wykes in Suffolk, died seised, the 6th of Hen. VI. of the manor of Walcote's and Bole's in this town.

In the 29th of Henry VI. George Heath, of Mil-denhall, released to Humphry duke of Bucks, all his right in Walcote's and Bole's manor; but in the 18th of Henry VII. Christopher Conyers conveyed it to the Heydons.

About 1570, fir Christopher Heydon was lord; and fir William Heydon sold it to fir George King-mill, who was lord in 1603; after this it was ser-jeant Gwin's; and Mr. Matthew Helcotte possessed it; then fir Jacob Astley, bart. was lord, and fir Edward, his son, now possesses it.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and a rectory; it is covered with lead, the chancel is tiled, has a round tower, with three bells, and stands distant from the church about eight feet.

The Rev. Mr. William Herne is patron of this rectory, and presented Mr. John Herne in 1774.

STIBBARD, STABERD, or STIBERDE, called in Doomsday-book Eftanbyrda, and Stabyrda. The family of De Pavili was, soon after the conquest, enfeoffed, by the earl Warren, of this lordship, and was also seised of the king's manor here belonging to Fakenham.

In the 5th of Edward II. Robert de Repps was lord and patron.

In the 9th of Henry IV. Henry Scogan was lord; and in the 12th of Henry VI. Richard Bosoun, esq. John Champneys, clerk, &c. release to Thomas Champneys, clerk, by deed dated July 10, all their right in this manor.

Roger Townshend, esq. and Ann his wife, held it, with the advowson of the church, in the 4th of Henry VIII. and by an inquisition taken November 1, in the 1st year of king James I. sir John Townshend was found to die seised of the manor of Stibbard, held of the king's manor of Fakenham, in soccage, and paying 3s. 4d. per ann. and that of Pavili's, held of the manor of Sculthorpe, in free soccage, and in this honourable family it continues.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory, consolidated with Colkirk in Launditch hundred. It has a nave, with a north isle, and a square tower with two bells.

The patronage of this rectory is in lord Townshend, who presented the Rev. Mr. Thomas Martin in 1769.

SYDERSTONE, SEDISTERN. OF SIDERSTORNE.
This town belonged principally to Alan, earl of Richmond, at the grand survey.

This Alan was also earl of Britany in France, a principal commander in the decisive battle near Hastings, and married Constance, one of the daughters of William the Conqueror. By this family the Kerdestons were enfeoffed of this lordship, of the manor of Richmond in Yorkshire.

In the 12th of Henry VII. May 25, Edmund de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, granted to Elizabeth Robfert, widow of sir Terry Robfert, for life, and to William Robfert, her son and heir, all his right and title in this lordship.

John Robfert, second son of sir Terry Robfert, was lord of this manor, and sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, in the 1st year of Edward VI.

Soon after this he died, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Scot, of Camberwell, esq. in Surry, a daughter and heir, Ann.

Ann, his daughter, married sir Robert Dudley, afterwards earl of Leicester, who had a grant of this manor.

This lady came to an unhappy death at Mr. Foster's house at Cumnore, near Oxford, by a fall from the stairs, and was buried in St. Mary's, the university church at Oxford. The earl held this manor for his life, dying lord of it in 1588, when it came to John Walpole, esq. son and heir of Edward Walpole, esq. of Houghton, and Lucy his wife, daughter of sir Terry Robfert, and in this family it remains, the right hon. George earl of Oxford being lord.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. In the 3d of Henry IV. the prior held the manor of Sydestern Wyks of the earl of Arundel.

In the 29th of Henry VIII. the prior conveyed it by fine to the king, and the king to the duke of Norfolk.

COXFORD PRIORY. This was granted May 9. anno 29th of Henry VIII. to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and has a nave, and a south isle, covered with lead, (the north isle is down) with a round steeple, and one bell.

On a mural monument of stone, in the chancel, with the arms of Corbet;—or, a raven proper, impaling Thornton;—argent, a chevron between three holly branches, vert.—*In memoriam Mariæ spectatæ probitatis, uxoris nuper Edwi. Corbet, rectoris hujus ecclesiæ filię Rogeri Thornton, equitis aurati de Snailwell, in com. Cantabr. quæ unquam post se relinquens filiolum Mariam nomine, sanctissime obiit in fide cultuq. Jesu, Ao. Dni. 1630, Aug. 27.*

Jane Peyton, daughter of sir Edward Peyton, of Isleham in Cambridgeshire, Knt. and Bart. by dame Jane his wife, living virtuously, and dying comfortably, was buried February 8, A. D. 1632. Her picture is on the wall, kneeling, and an angel standing at each side.

The earl of Orford is patron of this rectory, and the Rev. Charles Bagg, D. D. minister of St. Margaret's in Lynn Regis, the present rector, presented to the living in 1760.

TATTERFORD, so called from the river Tat. Humphrey de Bohun had a grant of it at the conquest.

Humphrey de Bohun was a kinsman to William duke of Normandy, and attended him on the conquest of this realm, and is called Humphrey with
the

the Beard, most of the Normans then shaving their faces. It does not appear that he was possessed of any other lordship in Norfolk, at the general survey, than this of Tatterford; and was ancestor to the Bohuns, earls of Hereford and Essex. It is probable this lordship remained not long in this family.

In the 9th of king John Henry de Hauvile was lord, who granted to Pagan de Tatterford his right of presentation to this church, with a *salvo jure*.

Afterwards it was in sir Robert Knolles, who had free warren here in the 2d of Richard II. His right herein came from sir James Hauvile and sir Robert Tyffour, and was seuled by him on his college, or hospital, of Pontefract in Yorkshire, with the advowson.

On the dissolution of this hospital, it was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to sir William Fermor and sir Richard Fulmerston. Thomas Fermor, esq. of East-Basham, sold it to Thomas Grave, esq. of Lynn, whose daughter and heir brought by marriage to Henry Vilet, esq. this lordship, with that of Tatterset.

The prior of Coxford had lands here, farmed by Henry Fermor, esq. in the 7th of Henry VIII.

The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is a rectory.

TATTERSET, so called as being seated on a rivulet, or stream, called anciently the Tat. In ancient and modern writings it is frequently wrote Tatterset, alias Gatesend,

Remerus held it under the earl Warren, the capital lord at the survey.

Remerus seems to be the ancestor of the family of De Pinkenye, lords of this town.

PINKENY'S MANOR. William de Pinkeni by deed, *sans* date, confirmed to Ralph the priest, his kinsman, and to his brother John, the lands here.—Ralph was once in the year to attend on, and ride out with William, at his charge, &c.

James de Pynkeney was lord in the 9th and 15th of Edward III. About this time several of this family had an interest here.

After this it was possessed, in part, by sir Robert Knolles, who settled it on his college or hospital of Pontefract, as in Sculthorpe: and, on the dissolution of that house, was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to sir William Fermor and sir Richard Fulmerston. Thomas Fermor, in the 16th of Elizabeth, had licence to convey them to Thomas Grave, Gent.

Catherine, daughter and heir of Thomas Grave, merchant, and mayor of Lynn in 1567, 1574, and 1584, brought it by marriage to Henry Vilet, of King's Lynn, merchant, and mayor in 1590 and 1599.

Henry, by Catherine his wife, was father of Grave Vilet, of Pinkeny hall, esq. who by Jane, daughter of William Butts, of Shouldham-Thorpe, esq. and Jane his wife, daughter of — Cocket, of Brunthorpe, had Thomas Vilet, his son and heir. Grave Vilet, son of Thomas, married Frances, daughter of John Brown, of Brisley, Gent.

George

George Vilet, esq. was the last heir male of this family, and left, by Frances, several daughters and coheirs; Diana, married to sir Robert Drury, bart. who died without issue; Ann, married to Charles Wright, esq. of Kilverstone; and Frances, to John Harris, esq. of Burnham. The lady Diana Drury died possessed of this town, and then it came to the Wrights of Kilverstone, and Charles Wright is the present lord.

The prior of Coxford had a manor here, which was granted, May 9, by king Henry VIII. in his 29th year, to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

SENGHAM, was an hamlet belonging to Tatterset. In this town were two churches, St. Andrew's and All Saints.

The church of All Saints was a rectory, in the patronage of the priory of Castle-acre, in the reign of king Edward I. as was also St. Andrew's church.

The Rev. Mr. John Wright, jun. was presented to the united rectories of Tatterset St. Andrew, with All Saints, alias Gatesend, and Tatterford, by Thomas Wright, esq. in 1767.

In the church of Tatterset are grave-stones: *In memory of John Walpole, esq. who died Dec. 11, 1654.*
—Edw. Pepys, esq. who died 22d Dec. 1663, aged 46.
—Anna Pepys, daughter of Edward, who died Sept. 8, 1655.

TESTERTON, was the lordship of Peter de Valoins at the survey, out of which Toka, a free-man, was expelled at the conquest.

It is called in Doomsday-book, *Eftretuna*, being seated by a running water, or river, that comes from Fakenham.

The family of De Snaring, lords of Snoring-Parva, enjoyed it under the family of De Valoins.

In the 12th of Henry VI. July 10, Thomas Champney, clerk, was lord.

Roger Rawlyn was lord in 1395, and presented to the church.

Agnes, the daughter of William Rokewode, esq. of Warham, jun. settled this lordship on her husband, sir Nicholas Appleyard, of Bracon-ash in Norfolk, who died lord in 1511.

John Appleyard, esq. was lord in the 2d of Edward VI. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Hogan, esq. of East Bradenham, was high sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1558, and bore for his arms, azure, a chevron or, between three owlets, argent. This John sold to Thomas Townshend, esq. this lordship; and in 1572 John Stanley, Gent. is said to hold it in right of his wife, (probably relict of this John) the reversion being in Thomas Townshend, then a minor, son of Thomas Townshend, who purchased it of Appleyard, and was a younger son of sir Roger Townshend, knt. of Rainham, by Ann his wife, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Brewse; which Thomas Townshend, esq. married Elizabeth, daughter of John Calybut, of Castle-acre, esq. and left Thomas, his son and heir, who by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Richard Catlyn, of Honingham, serjeant at law, had Thomas Townshend, esq. and by Elizabeth his wife, daughter

ter of Richard Timperly, of Hintlesham in Suffolk, esq. left Dorothy, his daughter and heir, who brought this manor by marriage to Thomas Bedingfeld, esq. whose son and heir, Anthony, married Ann, daughter of —, who was his widow in 1621. Thomas Bedingfeld, esq. his son, died in —, and left Anthony Bedingfeld, esq. lord of this town, and of Holm-Hale, and dying in 1707, Francis, his son and heir, sold it to John Curtis, esq. of Wells.

Mr. Benoni Mallet, of Dunton, is the present lord, 1757.

The church of Testerton is dedicated to St. Remigius, and is a rectory.

The Rev. Mr. Anthony Carr was presented to this rectory in 1749, by Messrs. William Lake, Thomas Waterhouse, and John Curtis.

TOFTREES, or TOFTES. Part of this town was a beruite to the earl Warren's manor of Sculthorpe.

It is called in Doomsday-book, Tofsas and Toftes, and seems to take its name from *toft*, a dwelling, and *fas* or *es*, by the water: some conceive it to take its name from Rys, (being called afterwards Toftrys) from a family that lived here in the reign of Richard II.

The noble family of De Playz were, soon after the conquest, enfeoffed of many lordships by the earl Warren.

Sir Hugh de Playz was lord in the reign of king John, and one of the rebellious barons against him.
Richard

Richard de Playz, in the 53d of Henry III. as one of the nephews and heirs to the lord Richard Montfitchet, paid his relief for the third part of Montfitchet's lands, and was lord of this manor in the 40th of Henry III.

Sir Richard de Playz, had a summons to parliament in the 11th, &c. of Edward II. and paid to the hundred court of Brothercrofs.

Richard, his heir, by his wife Margaret, daughter of sir Walter de Norwich, left John, his son and heir, aged eighteen years, who married Joan, daughter of sir Miles Stapleton, of Ingham in Norfolk, and by her had a daughter and heir, Margaret, married to sir John Howard, ancestor of the dukes of Norfolk.

Sir John Howard, by Margaret, daughter and heir of sir John Plaiz, had a son, sir John Howard, who died in 1410, and by Joan his wife, daughter of sir Richard Walton, left Elizabeth, his daughter and heir, who married John Vere, esq. earl of Oxford, beheaded in the first year of king Edw. IV. whose grandson John, earl of Oxford, dying without issue, this lordship came to his three sisters and coheirs; Elizabeth, married to sir Ant. Wingfield; Dorothy, to John Nevill, lord Latimer; and Ursula to sir Edward Knightley; and Ursula dying without issue, one moiety of the manor was vested in the lord Latimer, and the other in Wingfield.

HEMPTON PRIORY MANOR. Henry, son of Roger de Warham, released by fine to Richard, prior of Hempton, his right in a messuage here.

In the 20th of Henry VII. this lordship was charged with an annuity of 20s. per ann. payable to Henry Fermor, esq. of East Basham, for life; and on the 9th of September, in the 37th of Henry VIII. granted to sir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife, and after, came with the patronage of the vicarage and the rectory, from the duke of Norfolk, to Rothwell, Clifton, and the lord Townshend.

The manor of Hauvile's, in Rainham, extended into this town; and Thomas de Hauvile held it in the 30th of Edward I. Henry Scogan held it in the 9th of Henry IV. soon after it came to the Townshends; and in the 27th of Henry VIII. was possessed by sir Roger Townshend, as may be seen in Rainham, and so was joined to the capital manor; the whole town being now in the lord Townshend.

The Cliftons of this town were a family of good account.

In the 43d of Elizabeth, one Evans took the son of one Clifton, a gentleman of Norfolk, who was taught to sing for his recreation, by virtue of a commission to take children for the king's service in his chapel, but he being a gentleman's son, Evans, for that offence, was grievously punished.

The church of Toftes is dedicated to All Saints, and was a rectory.

Peter, lord Valoins, founder of Binham priory, confirmed to it, in the reign of Henry I. two parts of the tithes of this lordship.

Robert, prior of Lewes, and the convent, granted the appropriated rectory, and portion aforesaid,
 + I. with

with the patronage of the vicarage, to the king, by fine, anno 29th of Henry VIII. and the king, on December 22, in the said year, granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

In the chancel, against the north wall, is a marble compartment, on the summit of which is the arms of Clifton; cheque, or, and gules, a bend over all, ermine, and in an oval, below it a globe, with an arm over it, issuing out of the clouds, holding a lilly, and this motto, *Mihi minus in lubricum*; in the center, on a black marble;

Siste vivens, quia moriturus es, et meditare mortuos—

Fueri HENRICUS CLIFTON, Armiger, et uxor Maria, filia Thomæ Crests, de Felmingham, Armig. qui quondam trinj unius Dej et fide et timore frcii vixere; dunc velle suo et pace manumissi, recessere. Ille, A. D. 1620, Ætat. 57, Illa A. D. 1603, æt. 36. Quorum jam nomina memorie et piæ et humanæ et officiosæ, non ingratis debita, ne cito nimis evaderent, aut Tu illorum nescius abires, hoc nullo quasi, (sed quali potuit) mnemofyno curavit filius.

*Quod tantum potui positis pro nomine, signis
Filius (unus enim bina de prole relictus
Huc usq; existo) lacrymas et funera solvo.
Sic ego lassatam (non duro tramite) vitam
Deponam placide, sic me vixisse bonorum
Consensus memoret, nam non bene vivere, non est.
Sic tandem Ætherium moriturus adire parentem
(His ego privatus) mediter dum flebiis ulro
Circumflet proles, quæ nostrum nomen et omen,
Numine propitij confusa et nomine Christi,
Promoveat, placidas, sic, sic juvat ire sub umbras.
Τὸ γὰρ θάνατον ἐκ αἰσχροῦ ἀλλ' αἰσχρὸν θάνατον.*

The

The foregoing is a fine composition; the verses are easy and classical, and the

“ *Non bene vivere, non est.*”*

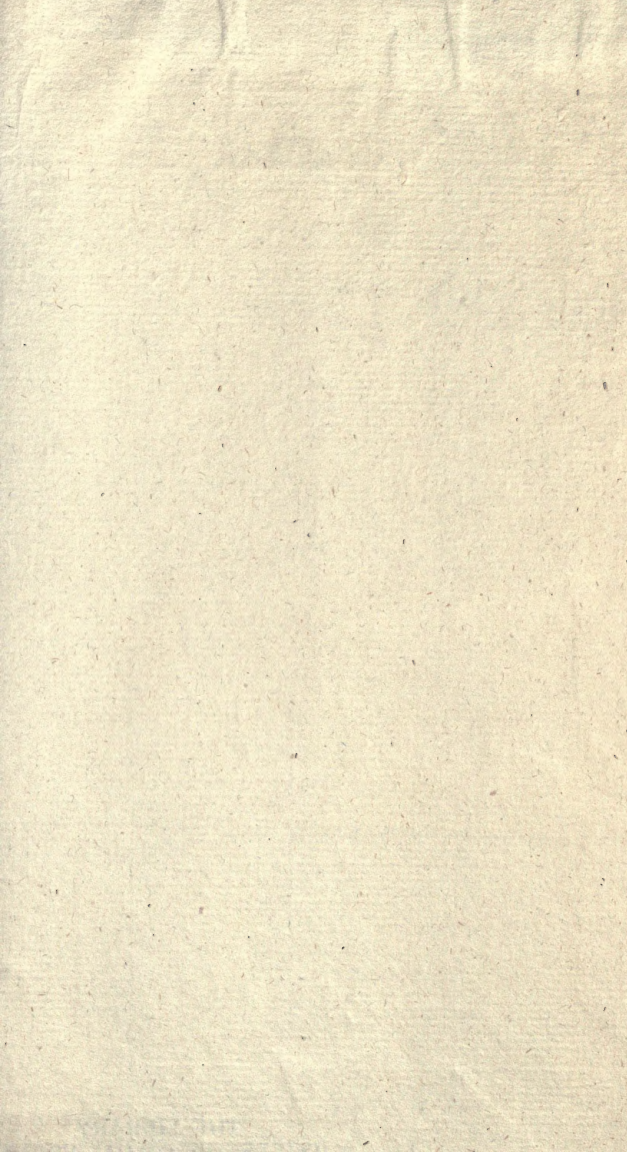
a sentiment truly noble: A strain of filial affection and piety runs through the whole, and strongly recommends and marks the character of the young gentleman, who wrote the above, to the notice of all posterity. Had Mr. Clifton kept twenty packs of fox-hounds, and built twenty noble houses, his memory had never been half so honoured, as by the above grateful and elegant eulogium to his deceased parents.

The deanry of Tostrees comprehends twelve parishes, one of which, Colkirk, is in Launditch hundred.

The Rev. Mr. William Fisher was presented to the vicarage by the present lord viscount Townshend in 1766.

* “ Not to live well is not to live at all.”





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